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A PLEA FOR A NEW INQUISITION.

LORD HERSCHELL, who has won golden opinions by the extraordinary skill with which he has conducted the inquiry of the Commission into the malpractices of the Metropolitan Board of Works, will not, we hope, be above taking a hint from Lord DUNRAVEN'S Committee on Sweating in the East-end. The following extract from the Report which that Committee has just made to Parliament will, *mutatis mutandis*, serve as the substance of a preliminary Report of the Inquiry into the Metropolitan Board of Works:—

In the opinion of your Committee the evidence already taken sufficiently indicates the existence of grave evils in connection with what is known as the sweating system in the localities to which their investigations have been confined. They have reason to believe that the same or similar evils prevail in other parts of the metropolis, as well as in other towns and cities, and affect various industries not yet examined. . . . An exhaustive inquiry is impossible under a reference limiting the area of investigation to the East-end of London; and your Committee recommend such an extension of their reference as will enable them to prosecute their inquiries throughout the metropolis and in such cities and towns or rural districts in the United Kingdom as they may select.

Lord DUNRAVEN'S request is granted. . . So would be Lord HERSCHELL'S if he cares to make it, although possibly the scope of the inquiry would not be enlarged until the autumn Session.

The great success which has attended the investigation—a fishing inquiry if ever there was one—into the corruption of the Board of Works justifies a demand on the part of the public that the scope of so admirable and competent a set of inquisitors shall be extended. Think you that the men on whom the tower of Siloam fell were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? We tell you nay. There are many other public bodies in London whose dealings with public trusts call as urgently for investigation as did those of the Board at Spring-gardens. We commend to Lord HERSCHELL'S attention the City Corporation, the vestries, and the Middlesex magistrates. If the Augean stable is to be cleansed it is absurd merely to deal with a single stall, and that one of the newest and cleanest in the whole establishment. We are not going to condescend upon particulars, but Lord HERSCHELL knows well that we are within the mark when we say that, so far as common report goes, the case against the City and the vestries is far stronger than ever was the case against the Board of Works. We have a right to speak on this subject, because we had the honour last year of being one of the two papers whose attacks on the corruption of the Board of Works led to the appointment of Lord HERSCHELL'S Commission. The first place undoubtedly belongs to the *Financial News*, but among the political papers we were alone in pressing the charges home against Mr. ROBERTSON and his whitewashers. The *Times* and most of our contemporaries did their best to spread the convenient screen of silence over the guilty Board, and because we refused to follow their evil example we were especially singled out for intemperate abuse by members of the Board. The evidence elicited by Lord HERSCHELL is an abundant justification, although at the time very little of it was known to us or to any one else beyond mere hearsay and floating gossip. Of course it may be that the City Fathers and the vestries are unjustly maligned. There may be no jobbery and no corruption in these bodies; but, if so, then they are most unjustly maligned, and it would be an immense service both to them and to the public if their character could be publicly cleared. In the case of the Middlesex magistrates it is absolutely necessary that steps should be taken to clear up the suspicion of corruption that lingers over them in their capacity as licensing authorities of theatres and music-halls. It was in connection with the Pavilion that the extensive system of organized corruption prevailing in the Board of Works was brought to light. If Lord HERSCHELL were to be empowered to make searching inquiries into the expenditure that was incurred in procuring music-hall licences, as well as into the payments made in the same exalted quarters to secure, or to try to secure, the refusal of the licence of the Empire Theatre, offenders might be brought to light who would throw Mr. ROBERTSON into the shade.

Further than the local governing bodies in London we do not ask the Government to go at present. But we lose no time in formulating as a plank in the Democratic programme of the future the formal establishment of an Inquisition charged

with all the powers of a Royal Commission into all allegations of corruption or jobbery made against public bodies dealing with public funds. What we propose is that whenever any widespread and persistent allegations of corruption are made against any public body there shall be opened on the spot a Public Inquisition, the members of which shall be armed with all the prerogatives of Lord HERSCHELL'S Commission, for the discovery of the truth and the unearthing of the secret misdeeds of the local authorities. Lord HERSCHELL would make an admirable Inquisitor-General, and if it was necessary to make the inquisition extremely strong, Sir HENRY JAMES and Mr. CHAMBERLAIN might be appointed as assistant inquisitors. Wherever the inquisition is opened local members should be temporarily added to the tribunal. The mere existence of such an inquisition would strike terror into the heart of the guilty, and would deter a hundred men from yielding to the tempter for one criminal whom it actually exposed. The suggestion requires to be worked out very carefully, but in its essence it is sound, practicable, and popular.

RECENT IMPROVEMENTS IN OUR RAILWAYS.

II.—SCOTCH EXPRESSES.

AFTER praising the southern companies for their enterprise this year it is difficult to retain a reputation for sanity and yet do justice to what has happened north of Thames. Our northern lines surpass those south of Thames almost as much as these in turn exceed the most desperate efforts of the Continent. The three great lines which start from Euston, King's-cross, and St. Pancras have this summer with one consent determined to beat their own record in a way that is astounding. We described the other day the extraordinary race to Edinburgh which these three companies began to run on the first of this month. On July 28 the North Western had suddenly announced that in August its 10 o'clock train would reach *Edinburgh* in 8½ instead of 9 hours. The Great Northern, with only a few hours to decide, instantly issued notices to inform the public they would still keep ahead, and that their 10 o'clock express would run to Edinburgh in 8 hours. This 10 o'clock is a perfectly new train for Edinburgh alone: it runs to Grantham at 53, and from Grantham to York at over 54 miles an hour. In fact its gross average speed to Edinburgh, including lunch at York, is over 49. This train is followed by another at 10.5, taking passengers for Glasgow and the North of England: the speed is only a trifle less, for it reaches York in 3 h. 40 min., as against 3 h. 35 min. for the first train; both stop 5 min. at Grantham. But the North Western acceleration involves perhaps more astounding speed, all things considered. Eight minutes more have been deducted from the rapid climb over Shap, and the 90 miles from Preston are now done in 1¾ hours, an actual average (over 1 in 70) of 51½ miles an hour. From Carlisle to Edinburgh that spirited Caledonian keeps up the pitch, and goes to Edinburgh without a stop in 2 min. under the 2 hours. This presents us with the same average of 51½ miles per hour over a route containing a summit of 1,015 feet. But as if this were not enough, the North Western have this morning announced a yet further acceleration. They are not going to be outrun by the Great Northern, and, commencing on Monday next, a special express (1st, 2nd, and 3rd class) will leave Euston at 10 A.M. and reach Edinburgh at 6.0 P.M. The train will call at Crewe, Preston, and Carlisle only, and 20 minutes will be allowed for lunch at Preston. This is magnificent—the gross average speed, including lunch at Preston, being 50 miles an hour. To do level ground at an *average* of 50 is considered first-rate, but now we find two companies making no more account of the Westmoreland fells or Lowland heights. Heaven and earth are being moved this year to—take our tourists, mostly sleepy and unappreciative, a half hour sooner to their goal. It is a good thing to live in a country where there is something to be proud of. If either France or Germany could boast even one of these trains, what hysterics would ascend in praise of the glorious Republic, what untold gallons go below in honour of the mighty Fatherland. There is no immediate fear of such contingencies: when a Government drives the engine the most timid need not blink. Even before the startling accelerations which began with the present month, the Scotch expresses were the best trains in the world. The Great Northern reached Edinburgh, 392½ miles, in 8½ hours (Glasgow, 440, in 9 h. 50 m.); the North Western ran to both towns (400 and 401½ miles) in 9 hours; and the Midland arrived at Glasgow, 423 miles, 9 hours and 20 minutes after leaving London. This gives a mere gross "journey-speed," *i.e.*, speed including stops, with a big lunch at Preston, York, or Normanton, of 46 miles an hour for the E. Coast to Edinburgh, 45½ for the Midland

to Glasgow, $44\frac{3}{4}$ for the W. Coast. Deducting stops, the average running-speed to Glasgow, up over mountain ranges, through stations and junctions, was 49 miles an hour for the E. Coast ($49\frac{1}{2}$ to Edinburgh), 49 for the W. Coast, $48\frac{1}{4}$ for the Midland. An average of nearly fifty miles an hour necessitates a good deal of 60 on the level, and at least 70 miles an hour for many miles on end down the favourable side of the gradients.

These three great expresses are each too fine to be vulgarly "placed," and it would be difficult to decide which stands first in merit (that is, if the Midland keep time). The E. Coast has beyond comparison the easiest route, but then its train is much heavier, containing passengers for all parts of Scotland. The W. Coast has a very hard run north of Preston, but they decline all passengers except those going to Glasgow or Edinburgh. The Midland has the hardest journey—especially to Edinburgh—but it divides its train into separate portions for Glasgow and Edinburgh, each portion however conveying local English passengers as well. To ensure the attainment of such high speed the North Western does not arrange to carry in its 10 o'clock train, nor the Midland in its Glasgow portion (10.30), passengers from Manchester or Liverpool—though travellers from Bristol and the south-west find the rival expresses eager to receive them; the Lancashire people are taken on by the North Western *Perth* express and by the Midland in a separate auxiliary train of their own, in both cases reaching Glasgow and Edinburgh some half-hour sooner than when they went by the express.

The Midland programme, forced on it by stern gradients and a longer route, is somewhat striking. At 10.30 it despatches from St. Pancras the Glasgow portion, and at 10.40 follows that for Edinburgh, chasing the other to Carlisle. The Glasgow portion picks up at Normanton passengers from Bristol, Derby, Sheffield, &c., and is reinforced at Skipton by those from Leeds and Bradford: the Edinburgh portion takes in at Leeds the passengers from Bristol, &c., at Keighley those from Bradford, and at Hellifield a batch from Liverpool and Manchester; while those who wish to go from these two latter towns to Glasgow have a separate express to themselves, leaving about 3, reaching Glasgow at 8.35. The 10.30 train stops at Leicester, 99 miles, then at Normanton, 185; the 10.40 runs without a stop to Nottingham, 124 miles (in 2 h. 25 min.), then to Leeds, 204 miles, in 4 hours 7 minutes. Here are four unexampled breaks, averaging 97 miles each, either over steep ascents or through a forest of junctions, done at a speed which averages from 50 to 52 miles an hour. Imagine the amazement of a Southerner going by the 10.40 to Nottingham; it is $2\frac{1}{2}$ times as far as Brighton, but to run to Brighton without a stop (5 P.M.) he would have to pay as much money ("1st class only") as to Nottingham, besides which he travels on the northern hilly route at 51 miles an hour as against 46 on the more level south—an extra 10 per cent. of speed implying nearly double excellence. Running from Leicester to St. Pancras in 1 h. 54 m. must take the championship from that Great Northern Manchester express which swallows the $105\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Grantham to King's-cross in 1 h. 57 m.; the speeds are 52 and 54 respectively, but the Midland is done with a greater load over a much heavier course. The Great Western too should compare the run to Nottingham with their (once famous) journey of 2 hours 36 min. (15 min. stoppage) to Bristol, 118 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles; the "Dutchman" bears no 3rd class burden, but there it is beaten, badly beaten with its unique road. Fancy Leeds, 202 miles from London, with only one stop, and in 4 hours 7 minutes. This is 7 minutes less than the notorious "Zulu" takes to Exeter, which is only 194 miles. Of course the Zulu stops more, but we are contrasting the lot of 1st and 2nd class passengers on the level line with common 3rds on the hilly one. The Glasgow express reaches Normanton, 185 miles, in 3 h. 43 min., while the 10 o'clock Great Northern reaches York, 188 miles, in 3 h. 45 minutes; both trains stop only once, and the speeds are about 51 miles an hour in either case.

Meanwhile we have left the North Western 10 o'clock, which is speeding north likewise at over 50 miles an hour. Near Lichfield it is timed for some way at a mile a minute, and the $51\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Crewe to Preston are done in exactly an hour. After 25 minutes' lull for lunch the passengers are hurried up past Kendal and over the Shap fells (915 ft.) to Carlisle, 90 mountain miles in 1 h. 53 min., or nearly 48 miles an hour. This crucial run is 12 minutes quicker than ever before. A little later, a few miles to the east, the Midland express to Glasgow soars up 1,170 ft. in its break from Skipton to Carlisle, doing $86\frac{3}{4}$ miles in 1 h. 49 min. (an acceleration of 6 minutes), and the Edinburgh portion follows, both at the same amazing pace of 48 miles an hour. Still farther east the North Eastern is steaming along with the 10 o'clock Great Northern, strange to say at about the same speed, though its line is so easy. Arrived at the Border, the Glasgow and South Western with its Midland load maintains this same average of 48 for 115 miles to St. Enoch's; the plucky Caledonian in the teeth of "1 in 80" up to 1,015 feet above the sea lets that average down only to $47\frac{1}{2}$; while the North Eastern engines over the $57\frac{1}{2}$ easy miles between Berwick and Edinburgh are content to make it 47.

We said before that the 10 o'clock from Euston does not take passengers for Perth and places higher north. They go in a second remarkable train, which leaving Euston at 10.30 (20 min. for lunch at Preston) reaches Perth at 8.45,— $10\frac{1}{4}$ hours for 450 miles, the last 240 of which are incessantly steep. In May the traveller left Euston at 10, reached Perth at 9.25, so that by the new arrangement the journey to Perth is shortened 70 minutes, and occupies only $\frac{1}{4}$ hour more than it took in

May to go to Edinburgh. (The Great Northern train which left King's Cross at 10 slips round in time to join its rival at Larbert, thus also getting to Perth at 8.45, making $10\frac{3}{4}$ hours for its E. Coast journey of 462 miles.) In accomplishing this feat the train, like its predecessor from Euston at 10, not only runs from Crewe to Preston in the hour, and repeats the performance over Shap (2 min. longer), but does an extraordinary break from Carlisle to Larbert, 110 steep miles, in 2 hours 20 minutes. This is equivalent to an average speed of 47 miles an hour, and since the Beattock climb of 1 in 80 must lower speed to 30 miles an hour there must be farther on a great deal run at 70 miles and over.

So much for the three heroic trains to Scotland: as for the more ordinary expresses we have no space left; but each company has either added new ones or accelerated the existing ones. (The E. Coast has done both.) A foreigner pacing the platforms of Shap soon after midnight would be surprised to see five expresses roaring through within two hours, one laden with "Horses and Carriages only," another full of beds and lucky people whose rest the North Western will not allow to be broken by the entry of a single passenger between Euston and Perth, all five steaming without a stop the 90 miles from Preston to Carlisle, except one (from Liverpool and Manchester) which takes the 105 from Wigan in a breath. Down the adjacent Eden valley sweep three Midland night expresses, two without a stop from Skipton to Carlisle, one in a longer burst of 95 miles from Keighley. Away on the East coast five Great Northern trains are doing similar deeds, two from York to Newcastle (80 miles) without a stop, all five from Newcastle to Berwick (66 miles), and two of these keeping on from Newcastle to Edinburgh, 124 miles. Still more incredulous would our visitor be when told that these were not *luxé* or "limited" trains with extra fancy fares, but that all alike conveyed the common 3rd class traveller.

The return expresses from Scotland to England are almost equally good, but we must stop; for details we refer the reader to Pp. 222, 278, and 284-6 of this month's *Bradshaw*, where he may easily lose his head amidst the *embarras de richesses*. By the end of July the three Companies together had 27 trains (counting both ways, but not including the short-lived "grouse-trains") between London and Scotland which are really "express," i.e., which satisfy the exacting standard of "40 miles an hour, stops included." In the summer of 1885 there were 19, and in 1883 there were 16. Besides these are 6 more real expresses between Lancashire and Scotland, and a dozen others between London and Scotland which miss the proud title only by stopping oftener. Not only is there this increase of 50 per cent. in the number of Scotch expresses since 1883, but their average speed has risen too. The 27 "express" journeys of this summer average $\frac{1}{4}$ hour less than the 19 of 1885, and $\frac{1}{2}$ hour less than the 16 of 1883. (We are here not counting the new expresses from Bristol via Severn Tunnel, which we come to later.) Such is five years' progress, as persistent as the "depression of trade" during which it has occurred.

Whence comes the stimulus that has aroused this ardent effort to accelerate the journey North? It can scarcely be the bad trade, or worse weather, which signalizes this year, nor can it really be the Glasgow Exhibition which has moved the North Western to curtail an hour, thereby compelling the Midland and Great Northern to follow suit. The success of Mr. Webb's "compounds" and again of the new Midland "singles" may have contributed; but the main cause confronts us when we see those two stupendous towers of steel that loom above the horizon of Edinburgh. When the Forth Bridge is finished the North Western and Caledonian will have to struggle hard if they wish to retain much of the traffic to Dundee or Aberdeen, and may possibly be robbed of some of that to Inverness. Hence the combatants are having trial heats to nerve themselves for the inevitable fight.

The 2nd June and 1st July were, from this point of view, very interesting days in the railway calendar. On the former day the North Western had at last, like the Prodigal Son, come home to a sense of its due position, after spending many years among the husks of a comparative mediocrity. On the 1st of July it started the new express to Perth, and the same morning saw the natural response from the Midland and Great Northern, those younger brothers whose career has always been one of irreproachable speed. No merry bells rang in the event, no boom of guns resounded from the three great termini, nor were they decked with brilliant flags. It was a dreary drizzle that greeted the passengers who drove up to King's-cross on the morning of the 1st. A small knot of officials paced beside the train, while the locomotive foreman chatted with the men on the engine, the only ones who appeared absolutely unconcerned. As the minute hand came to its hour Lord Colville, cheery, clean, and distinguished, threw a word of exhortation to the driver, stepped into a carriage with Mr. Oakley, Mr. Cockshott swung up on the engine, and they moved away to higher latitudes. Next door on the St. Pancras platform abreast of each other were the new twin expresses for Glasgow and Edinburgh quietly filling. So unexcited were the Midland staff at this first performance that at 10.23 they were coaxing three horses into their box on the (10.30) Glasgow train, while the owner's dog-cart stood leisurely waiting to follow. At Euston the swift 10.30 for Perth made its début quite unnoticed, slipping away with only five carriages, while the centre of attraction was on the adjoining platform, where Mr. Holland's opera company were embarking boisterous for Blackpool. This is the English way of doing things; they keep their hair on their heads.

(To be continued.)

THE UTOPIA OF PEACE.

BY M. EMILE DE LAVELEYE.

IN his recent and so very instructive letters, the Special Commissioner of the *Pall Mall Gazette* depicts in terms which cause a shudder the horrors of the coming war. Not long ago General Brialmont said to me: No military man, not even Moltke, can possibly foresee all the terrors and miseries of the first encounter. Formerly conflicting armies numbered about from 60,000 to 100,000 men each. In the last Franco-German war, at Gravelotte and at Sedan, there were 300,000 Germans against 200,000 Frenchmen, but now, owing to extensive railway systems, the means of concentration have become so perfect that in a fortnight's time Germany could pour a million of men into France, who would there find an equal number ready to oppose them. The rival armies would comprise two millions of soldiers; the line of combat could not, therefore, be less than about fifty miles in length. How could such a mass be kept in order and directed? Tolstoi's reflection that in all battles the chief of the staff is "chance" would be more applicable in such an emergency than at either Austerlitz, Wagram, or Brodino.

In consideration of this horrible perspective of bloodshed and slaughter, one is led to inquire: But is nothing to be done to avoid this combat between civilized nations? Why kill each other? Why engender ruin through pauperism and consequent Socialism? A nation is not benefited by the annexation of a new province. Are the Austrians the happier for their army occupying Bosnia? What good would it be to the Italians to secure to themselves the Trentini or Nice? A monarch's victories and conquests entitle him to the honour of a crown of laurels surrounding his effigy on the coins of the realm, but his subjects are none the better off nor less burdened with taxes: on the contrary.

Which are, after all, the happiest countries? They are incontestably the smallest: Switzerland, Norway, Luxemburg, and, still more, the Republics of San Marino and of Val d'Andorre. As, then, countries in general, even when victorious, do not profit by their conquests, and that it is to the interest of all that peace should be maintained, it ought not to be difficult to avoid occasions of war. Nevertheless, it is almost universally admitted that a general combat is sooner or later inevitable. The only doubtful point in the matter is the time when this is likely to burst forth. In view of such a sombre future, a lawyer of great merit, Count Kamarowski, Professor at the University of Moscow, and a member of the Institute of International Law, endeavours to show in what manner war should be avoided.

The primary cause of dispute at the present time is the antagonism of Austria and Russia in Bulgaria. According to M. Kamarowski, this could very easily be put an end to. He explains that Russia has been lacking in tact in this matter, and has excited the rather just susceptibility of the Bulgarians, but that in very truth she has no wish whatever to occupy either Constantinople nor any of the Danubian States; only she cannot allow Austria to get the upper hand in a district which she herself has freed at the cost of much blood and treasure. In order to settle a matter so full of peril a European Congress should be called. This Congress ought to take into consideration the question of nationalities, and consequently distribute the territory remaining to the Ottoman Porte between Greece, Servia, and Bulgaria. Constantinople should be declared a free port and an independent city. The passage of the Dardanelles and of the Bosphorus should be made neutral, like the Suez Canal—that is to say, open at all times to the navies of all States, no one being ever allowed to construct forts on any of the shores. M. Kamarowski fails to admit Russia's right to claim here a privileged position, because, he says, the Black Sea, into which the Danube flows, and where are both Roumanian and Bulgarian ports, cannot be considered as a Russian lake.

All friends of right and of humanity at large will approve of this scheme, which is merely the treaty of San Stefano rectified and completed. But who will dare pronounce, and worse still execute, sentence of death against the "Sick Man"? Besides, there are other causes for dispute which may spring up suddenly at any moment. If, for instance, the Servians were to overthrow the throne of King Milan and to elect in his place Prince Karageorge, the son-in-law of the Prince of Montenegro, would Austria be likely to tolerate a revolutionary movement which might be communicated not only to Bosnia, but also to Croatia? All parties at Belgrade told me that, under such circumstances, Austrian intervention would be certain. Would Russia then play the part of a looker-on in all this? Might it not, too, lead up to an occupation of Bulgaria? At all events it is quite certain that any Congress which could succeed in definitely setting aside these dangers would deserve the gratitude of the whole of Europe.

The second reason for war is Alsace-Lorraine, retained by Germany, but to which France still lays claim. M. Kamarowski explains that the annexation of these two provinces to the German Empire was a serious mistake, as they provide two millions of armed men always close at hand and ready at the first favourable moment to attack Germany. Towards the close of the last Franco-German war Bishop Strossmayer wanted to go and petition the Tzar at his feet to entreat him to prevent the dismemberment of France; the Russian Ambassador in Vienna dissuaded him from this, saying, "What you ask is impossible; you want us to make an enemy of Germany in order to prevent her securing to us a

powerful eventual ally, of whom we could always dispose if we desired it."

To do away with this second cause of war M. Kamarowski suggests that Alsace-Lorraine should be made into an independent province, its neutrality being guaranteed by the whole of Europe, and that, if its inhabitants were desirous of such an arrangement, they might even be allowed to become part of the Swiss Federation. This would be the realization of a project dimly foreshadowed in the middle ages, of which the very name of Lorraine, *Lothringen*—*Lothar ring*, the circle of Lothar—preserves the recollection. A brilliant writer and a noble-hearted man, Count Agenor de Gasparin, strongly advocated this solution with the most stirring eloquence in 1871. Unfortunately, however, it is highly improbable that either the French or the Germans would accept it. The Germans would argue: "As we must be attacked some day, it is of the utmost necessity for us to retain Metz and Strasburg as a boulevard, or rather as an indispensable slope, to our line of defence of the Rhine." While the French would reply: "The Alsatians are desirous of becoming French again; we cannot abandon our brethren." Nevertheless, would not these fellow kinsmen, if they were permitted to form themselves into a Swiss canton, be far happier than in being added on to, and fought over by, one or other great rival Power?

M. Kamarowski also foresees another great cause of war, more distant but more to be feared than the two already mentioned, for he cannot clearly define the method to avoid it. He refers to the inevitable termination of the dual Empire of Austria-Hungary, which he does not believe will outlive the prolonged feud between the rival races of which it is composed. The Slavs, more numerous than all the other nationalities, will in their turn become dominant. Poland, reconstituted, will be an outpost of the Russian Empire. All the Eastern part of our continent, from the White Sea to the Aegean Sea, will thus be Slav. But what would be the fate reserved to Bohemia? It is true that the Tscheks are in the majority there, but all the confines of the country are inhabited by Germans. Bohemia has been part of the German Empire since the middle ages; and if it were now to become an independent State it would be a Slav element penetrating into the very heart of the German populations. Would the latter ever accept such a state of things? Is not this likely to form an inevitable cause of dispute between the two neighbouring races? This leads us to reflect on the probable future of our continent. Fifty years hence, Napoleon said, Europe will be either Republican or Cossack. His imagination misled him as to the date, but the preponderance of Russia in the coming century appears certain. There are three countries whose future expansion seems destined to be almost limitless, the United States, Brazil, and Russia. Other nations in Europe lack space to increase, but Russia has open to her her immense provinces in Asia, and the vast tracts of land between Moscow and the Black Sea, and between the Oural and the Pacific Ocean, could easily accommodate a population of two or three hundred million inhabitants. As the Russian population increases a million annually, and this growth naturally becomes yearly more considerable, the Empire of the Tzar will number two hundred million men fifty or sixty years hence. Then will be the moment for the annexation of other Slav countries, and for the Russian eagles to advance to the very centre of Europe.

Let us hope that before this takes place the Utopia of peace which M. Kamarowski writes of will have become an accomplished fact, that all swords will be turned into ploughshares, and that the great ideal of Christianity, the universal brotherhood of the whole human race, will be no longer a mere dead letter.

"THE OGLANDER MEMOIRS."

"The Oglander Memoirs." Edited, with an Introduction and Notes, by W. H. Long. (Reeves and Turner.) The Oglanders came over, not indeed, as is commonly said, at the Conquest, but shortly after it, for an Oglander held Nunwell, in the Isle of Wight, temp. Henry I. There they remained for seven hundred years, the last of the family dying in 1874. Perhaps their only title to distinction is to be found in the memoirs which are here printed. They made very little history, but one of them, almost accidentally, contributed some valuable materials for it. Sir John Oglander (1595-1655) was a sturdy Isle of Wight patriot, who resented the usurpations of Governors, and maintained the rights of the islanders (among them "ye pryvilege not to be made High Shryffe"). He is very free in his criticisms of his fellows. He laments over the degenerate days on which he had fallen, and traces the decay to the presence of attorneys. In Sir George Cary's time (1582-1613) one of the tribe coming to settle in the island had been hunted out of it "with a pownd of candels lyghted hanginge at his breeche, with belles abowt his legges;" but later rulers had been less vigorous, and now three attorneys had "utterlye undon ye whole communalitie." He gives us interesting details about prices (the average price of wheat was higher than it is now, without reckoning the altered value of money). He supplies an abundance of antiquarian and genealogical details. And sometimes he travels beyond island affairs, into matters of large interest. He has something to say, of course, about the death of the Duke of Buckingham. His account is particularly minute. His own estimate of the Duke's character is not adverse, but he quotes verses about his verses, which show how hated he was. Altogether, this is an interesting, and carefully-edited volume.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

The Simple Old Man is beginning to discover that even his ever-green faith in the ease with which a solid majority of 100 votes can perform miracles is of no avail against the stubborn facts of the parliamentary situation. Last night he postponed the Tithe Bill and the Minister of Agriculture Bill till the autumn Session. The Wheel and Van Tax Bill is also postponed; but he still clings to the hope that he will get some of the other bills through. The Ashbourne Act Extension Bill and the Irish Drainage Bills will have to be postponed, and in their case postponement means abandonment. It is ominous for Scotland that Mr. Smith declared that he would be failing in his duty to the House and the country if he dropped Scotch business. Such a valiant declaration is in Mr. Smith's case the almost invariable precursor of total abandonment of the legislation referred to.

Mr. Matthews yesterday shed a crocodile tear of sympathy over the people whom he has driven from Trafalgar-square. "To a certain extent," he said, "he sympathized with those persons who attached great importance to the practice of meeting in the Square." The extent of his sympathy may be accurately measured by the fact that he has broken the heads and destroyed the property of those who, believing his solemn assurance as to the lawfulness of *bonâ fide* political meetings in the Square, attempted to hold such a meeting. Mr. Matthews is ridiculous as Mr. Mantalini, he is amusing as the apostate advocate of the Fenians of Dungarvan, but as Mr. Pecksniff he is simply intolerable. Let him, if he will, bludgeon us out of the Square, but let us have none of this sickening cant about his sympathy.

This is the way in which poor and helpless women are dealt with by the police force over which Sir Charles Warren, a soldier and a gentleman, has supreme control. A poor Welsh girl in service in London was delivered of a stillborn illegitimate child on July 1. In her terror and despair she hid the corpse in the cellar. It was found by her mistress, who accused the girl next day of having had a baby. She denied it, and then, leaving the house, went to shelter at her uncle's in the neighbourhood. Late at night on July 2, not two days after her confinement, the poor girl's bedroom was invaded by Police-constable Day, a detective of the N Division, who arrested her without a warrant, and carried her off out of bed to the police-station, where she was compelled most unwillingly to "consent" to an examination by Dr. Jenkinson, police surgeon of the N Division. This examination was conducted at midnight. No woman was present, and the girl's friends were not communicated with. Her state of health was such that she was ordered at once to the hospital, from whence she was removed to the dock of the Old Bailey, where the truth about her treatment came to light, and she was at once discharged as not guilty.

Mr. Justice Hawkins, who tried the case, commented in strong terms on the conduct of the police. He said:—

I regret that a police officer should have gone without a warrant and have taken her in the middle of the night to the police station. I also regret that the surgeon should have made an examination of the girl at midnight, in the absence of any female relative, when a delay till the morning could not have been productive of much harm. I consider that there has been harshness and severity in the treatment this poor girl has received which amounts to positive cruelty, and I trust that this is the last time I shall ever hear of such conduct.

Dr. Jenkinson ought either to be prosecuted for indecent assault, or if the case of Anne Agnew is taken as a precedent, Catherine Morgan ought to be able to recover substantial damages against him. As for the police, of course they are above the law, nor can any proceedings be taken against them with the slightest hope of success. Sir Charles Warren, of course, may be relied upon to do his duty and issue a certificate censuring Mr. Justice Hawkins and declaring that Police-constable Day's conduct was worthy of all admiration.

Mr. Leonard Courtney ought to have been a theologian. Ordinary mortals are under the idea that a man is only one person, but Mr. Courtney's ruling on Mr. McLaren's motion yesterday shows that a man may be three persons. Thus, in the case of the individual known as Mr. Long, there is (1) plain Mr. Long, (2) Mr. Long, M.P., (3) Mr. Long, M.P., Under-Secretary. Mr. Long went down to Rochester to proclaim his respect for Colonel Hughes-Hallett. Mr. McLaren proposed thereupon to move the reduction of Mr. Long's salary. But Mr. Courtney would have none of it. The Mr. Long who draws the salary is the No. 3 above; the Mr. Long who went down to Rochester was not that person but another, namely No. 1 above. Mr. Long himself is clearly under the impression that he is an indivisible whole, for he expressly stated at Rochester that he appeared as M.P. and Under-Secretary. But Mr. Courtney knows better. Mr. Long's statement, he said, "could not alter the nature of the act." How convenient it would be if Mr. Courtney's verbal subtleties had

any actual substance behind them—if "the honourable member for Rochester," for instance, could really dissociate himself from the acts of Colonel Hughes-Hallett! But as Mr. Courtney's rescue of him last night was only a verbal quibble, neither the gallant Colonel who was guilty of the original scandal, nor the honourable member who went out of his way to consent unto it, has heard the last of the business yet.

Yet another moral miracle! The case of P.-c. Hallett (yesterday was a lucky day for the Halletts), who was suspended three months ago, owing to the censures of Mr. Montagu Williams, has now been investigated by his official superiors—with the result, of course, that the constable has been declared to have not a stain upon his character. If things go on at this rate, there will be fierce competition in the force for censure from the judicial bench. It is the regulation passport nowadays to canonization at Scotland-yard.

The decision of the Privy Council yesterday in the case of "Read and others v. the Archbishop of Canterbury" will probably astonish those who thought the flood-gates of ecclesiastical controversy were closed. A strong court decided yesterday on an *ex parte* application, after hearing Sir Horace Davey for four hours, that the Archbishop had jurisdiction, and that there was an appeal, but they significantly added that they expressed no decision as to whether the Primate was obliged to issue a citation or not. The smiles which wreathed the countenances of the Lord Chancellor, Lord Herschell, and the Bishop of London, when the two former asked how the Primate was to proceed, were significant of future complications. But it is sad to think of the money that will be thrown away in law costs which might be available for the social and moral improvement of the people.

There are two interesting things in the interview which a Paris correspondent has had with M. Félix Pyat on the strikes. One is M. Pyat's prediction that at next year's elections there will be a hundred Socialist deputies returned. The other is the conversion of the Communist to Conservatism. "While claiming the everlasting right of insurrection, I should, of course," says M. Pyat, "oppose any useless or inexpedient use of that right." That is not very pronounced Conservatism, perhaps; but it is a first step, and it is the first step that counts. "When men like my former friend Crispi become the valets of Bismarck, it is time," added M. Pyat to his interviewer, "to expect the worst." When men like Félix Pyat become the supporters of "the Government" it is time, may we not add, to expect the best.

The Latchford case is something more than an example of the way in which the Crimes Act is being administered in Ireland. It is also an illustration of the ease with which the Chief Secretary can be deceived by official reports, as well as of his implicit belief that that all Irishmen (not in official employ) are liars. Mr. Balfour is not the active, hard-headed, truth-seeking Minister of the public judgment. He is lazy, pulpy, and indifferent as long as Irish officials interpret the maintenance of law and order to mean "harassing the enemy." He gives his men a free hand; he accepts their excuses and narratives; and when they have obviously blundered he leaves their apologies unexamined lest he should discover them to be a tissue of falsehood. All his facts are wrong about Mr. Latchford; and what can be said of his description of a judicial proceeding as "rapid" which leaves fourteen days between the offence and trial? Mr. Caldwell's protest, however, will probably be more effective than Mr. John Morley's exposure or Mr. Crozier McCormick's letter. The so-called Liberals who wink at judicial inequalities and personal vindictiveness in Ireland will get a long bill from their constituents by-and-by.

As the Fauntleroy case protects only the dialogue of a novel, not its plot and idea, Messrs. Longmans had to content themselves with Herr Bandmann's undertaking to re-write such portions of his "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" as were "lifted" from Mr. Stevenson's text. The result, so far as Mr. Stevenson is concerned, is that in all probability a worse play will be fathered upon him than would otherwise have been the case. But how about the title? As soon as the Lyceum version is produced, Mr. Mansfield could surely (if he thinks it worth while) prevent Herr Bandmann from using the now famous name of "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." It is true that Mr. Mansfield has no legal standing in this country until his play is produced to-night, and that between Saturday evening and Monday evening he can take no steps; but as soon as a judge is available he could probably vindicate his claim to the title. The better policy, no doubt, would be to let Herr Bandmann alone. The two plays will advertise each other.

The stamp department of the Government is upside down. The Inland Revenue Board makes £800 worth of stamps annually for its own use. But it also makes the stamps for the Post Office to the tune of

£135,000 a year. Why should not the Post Office supervise the manufacture of its own stamps? The question seems to stir a colossal problem, and the Revenue Board looks horrified whenever it is preferred. It says, with the cynic in the French saying—here is another Christian throwing himself to the lions "Stamps are revenue, and are we not the Revenue Board?" Such an apology shows how much we need that attention to Supply which the *Times* is not alone in thinking of as much importance as passing bills. Indian stamps, so Mr. Purcell said in his evidence to the Select Committee on the Revenue Estimates, cost £34,000 to manufacture, when they could be got by contract for £19,500. They are to cost next year £428 more than the second amount. There are probably other anomalies in the Post Office and Revenue Departments besides the now familiar loss of 1d. on a packet of post-cards purchased at a post office. We pride ourselves on the Post Office as a successful Department. Is not that the reason we have been relaxing our vigilance over it?

THE WIG-MAKER OF WELLINGTON-STREET.

THE other day Mr. Clarkson, the famous wig-maker of Wellington-street, sent us his catalogue—a very extraordinary compilation, which throws an



THE GOLDEN LOCKS OF MISS MINNIE PALMER.

amusing light on the secret history of the stage and the individual. The editor and compiler divulges all manner of queer secrets about the art of "making up" the human form. Certainly there is no mention of the false calf—an article which I believe is not unknown; but that is the notable exception. This catalogue is profusely illustrated, too, with pictures of famous actors and actresses in many disguises; and the mysteries of the male and female toilette which it divulges are likely to create a wide spread feeling of scepticism in the bosom of the reader. Take, for instance,

HOW LADIES ARE MADE BEAUTIFUL.

The list of switches, such as the Jeunesse, the Frou Frou, the Basket Plait, and the Queen Anne, would fill a column of this paper. A switch, one should say, is one of those entrancing tails which bring a lady's back hair to a bewitching and artistic conclusion. They might, in fact, be called switchbacks. If the hair department is numerically strong, it sinks into insignificance beside the articles which seem to be necessary for the restoration of the face, the arms, the eyes, the neck, and the finger nails. Bloom of Ninon, Golden Fluids, Ivory Liquids, Magnolia Balms, Etais Mystérieuses, Blanc de Perles, Crème de Beauté, salves, pomades—there is no end to them. Amongst the miscellaneous articles are artificial veins, the Circassienne, which imparts a brilliancy to the eye and "makes it appear larger," and the wrinkle effacer.

NOR ARE THE GENTLEMEN FORGOTTEN.

Turning to the gentlemen's department, one finds that conversion into a Creole or an Indian may be effected very cheaply by a sixpenny box of "Bole Armenian." A powder that is equally effective for unshaven chins or death pallor may also be had at the same figure. A preparation of burnt umber will produce appalling hollows in the face, whilst Email Noir rubbed on the front teeth will cause them to disappear, showing a hideous cavern in the jaws. No actor need fear swallowing his moustache or be afraid of his whiskers coming off if he uses Mr. Clarkson's spirit gum. Ruddy Rouge produces a sunburnt face; oxide of zinc turns you into a clown or a piece of statuary; the dexterous application of a certain paste will increase the size of your nose. Here, again, is a hair dye for changing grey or red hair to brown or black, and a cosmétique for darkening an eyebrow or an eyelash. Miss Phyllis Broughton gives her name to a powder which imparts to the hair a "bronze red-gold" or "a light brown red-gold."

THE POWER OF BLISS AND THE FANE OF FALSEHOOD.

Having read of the queer things which might be bought in Mr. Clarkson's emporium, it was natural enough that one should be eager to inspect them in the life, and I accordingly spent a very amusing and instructive hour in the Bower of Bliss or the Fane of Falsehood. The first question I asked the Boss of the Bower concerned black eyes, which I had heard could be cured, and learned, with sorrow, that Mr. Clarkson does a considerable business in painting

them out. Mr. Clarkson is a blonde young man, and a blush could easily have been detected, but not even a faint one mantled over his brow when he informed me that part of this business in black eyes was done with ladies who had "fallen downstairs," or "tumbled out of bed," or "hit her eye against the door-knob," or been "hit in the eye by a boy with a plum." So, here is a wrinkle for those in trouble.

THE DETECTIVE GETS HIS WIG CURLED IN THE MIRRORED BOUDOIR.

I was then taken into a mirrored boudoir, on the walls of which hung a gallery of photographs; but before I had time to look about me I was hustled out. We had unwittingly interrupted the operation of a tall, dark man in a frock coat and patent leather boots, who appeared to be admiring himself very much in the glass. "What's the matter?" I asked Mr. Clarkson, as we sat down in his highly decorative sanctum. "He has been getting his wig dressed, and was fixing it carefully, as he is a detective disguised for some purpose of which I am ignorant." This opened a discussion on disguises for utilitarian, not theatrical, purposes. Mr. Clarkson says he does quite a trade in disguises for the instruments of the law, and he assured me that in a week he could turn you out into broad daylight so transformed that your own mother wouldn't know you. The only detective I ever knew was the famous Lecocq, and I never thought that the stolid Briton condescended to prefer cunning to brute force, but, after my conversation with the Arch Hairman I have changed my opinion.

THE MAORI KING AND THE BALLET GIRLS.

I wonder that a gentleman in Mr. Clarkson's curious business can look upon his fellow-creatures with anything but contempt, for men and women who go to him must conceal nothing, or his art is useless. Your warts, your wrinkles, your freckles, your bald patch, your black eye, your fleshless calf, your lashless eyelids, your pimples, your pigeon breast, all must be confessed to Father Clarkson, if you would be cured, or he is of no avail. I cannot give the public a better idea of the inborn vanity of the human race than by telling the story of the Maori King, who was much perturbed by the tattoo marks which were graven deep on his sooty face. He affected the wings of the Alhambra, and thinking that the ladies could only look upon him with horror and aversion, came to Mr. Clarkson to have his tattoo marks filled up! Even Mr. Clarkson cannot convert a Beast into a Beauty, but he made the King more presentable.

HOW A WIG BUSINESS IS MANAGED.

The disguiser of deformities then led me into the various departments of his curious manufactory, telling me amusing stories and interesting recollections in the intervals between the rooms, with reminiscences of the famous tableaux at Osborne. Though not much of a courtier, I took some pleasure in trying on the red curls which had converted the Princess Beatrice into Elizabeth. "You would scarcely believe it," said Mr. Clarkson, "but there are several thousand wigs in this little room," and, suiting the action to the word, he pulled many drawers, each of them stuffed full of crumpled wigs. Here again are drawers full of lovely tresses, which have been shorn from the heads of German maidens, and sold to the hair merchants who are always "on the road." Girls are busy weaving or knotting the hair; men are at work upon old wigs that have come in from the provinces or the theatres for which Mr. Clarkson contracts. When a new piece is about to be produced, Mr. Clarkson contracts to supply the wigs, undertaking to keep them in order, and to take them back again when the piece has had its day. Every night he makes the round of the playhouses to which he is engaged to see that the wigs are all right. That is one branch of his business. Then he will dress your hair for a fancy dress ball, or supervise a private theatrical enterprise.

MASKS OF MEN AND BEASTS

You might think that it was enough to supply home and colonial and American companies with wigs. Enough for some men, but not for Mr. Clarkson, who vends—

American Indians, male and female
Babies, crying and laughing
Beadle, large
Bullocks' heads
Cats' heads
Comic old men
Chinese, male and female
Clowns
Donkeys' heads
Dromedaries' heads
Demons' heads
Devils, in all colours
Dogs
English swell, with eye glass
Father Christmas, head
Foxes' heads
Giraffes' heads

Hermits, with long beard
Horses' heads
Irishman
Jew, with beard
Large heads, complete with imitation hair, &c., suitable for comic countrymen, &c. A variety of expressions
Lions' heads, large size
Monkeys' heads
Negroes
Storks, large size, practical
Wolves' heads
German, with hat
Scotchman, with cap
Frenchman
Half faces, comic
Punch and Judy

NOT FORGETTING "PROPERTIES."

To say nothing of—

Axes
Apples
Beef Steaks
Bows & Quivers, gold or silver
Bubbles or Folly sticks
Cats, stuffed
Canes
Cornucopia
Crooks, in gold or silver
Fancy Oars
Fairy Wands, do.
Fairy Wings, do.
Fishwife-baskets

Fish
French Horns
Fruit Stands
Gold and Silver Fish
Geese
Haddocks, smoked
Herrings
Harlequin Bats
Life-buoys, Grace Darling
Lyres, small gold
Legs of Mutton
Loaves of Bread
Lemons

Mermaids
Meat Pies
Mutton Chops
Property Razors
Ribs of Beef
Red-hot Pickers
Roast Fowl
Rabbits, stuffed
Seed Cakes
Sauages
Spinning-wheels
Vivandière Barrel

Having tried the effect of Miss Harriet Vernon's auburn locks, which were airing on a wig block, and stroked down Miss Phyllis Broughton's ambrosial curls without fear of Lord Dangan, I left the emporium with a sincere respect and admiration for Father Clarkson's abilities.

LITERARY NOTES, NEWS, AND ECHOES.

I HEAR, on good authority, that the *Saturday Review* is in the market, and that an entire metamorphosis of that journal is not improbable. It is an open secret that its circulation has greatly fallen off of late years, and does not now exceed some seven or eight thousand a week.

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Mr. Wemyss Reid, having revised a fifth edition of his *Life of Mr. Forster*, is now preparing for his next big piece of work. This is the *Life of Lord Houghton*. The materials at the disposal of Mr. Reid for this work are very voluminous, and he calculates that it will take him at least twelve months to get them into shape.

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Mr. William Tallack, whose services in connection with the Howard Association are well known, has been plodding away for several years at a comprehensive book on "Crime, Prevention, and Philanthropy." The book is at last in type, and will be published in about a month's time.

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Mr. Rider Haggard's good fortune seems never to desert him. His shipwreck the other day off the island of Stromboli was his latest stroke of luck, for no doubt it will afford very valuable material for some future romance. His *confère*, Mr. Stevenson, will probably feel not a little envious when he hears of the adventure. When the details of Mr. Stevenson's cruise in the Pacific were being arranged, he expressly asked that a comfortable shipwreck should, if possible, be provided—a point in which his enterprising manager has not yet, I understand, succeeded in accommodating his principal.

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An interesting tribute was paid to Mr. Matthew Arnold in Germany just before his death. This was the publication of his "Essays in Criticism" in the Tauchnitz edition—a series which, as is well known, includes very few books in the department of *belles-lettres*.

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I was buying a novel the other day in a bookshop in Germany. Seeing that I was looking only at the English stories, the bookseller's "young man" asked why I did not rather choose one of the English translations of German stories. "You will find them of more permanent interest," he said, in excellent English. "Very well," I said; "shall I take one of Heyse's?" "No, not Heyse," he replied; "he will be too sweet perhaps for your English taste. You should take Scheffel's 'Ekkehard'—an historical novel written by a poet, an established masterpiece of modern literature, and as much a national favourite as your 'Copperfield' in England." The young man's criticism interested me; but what struck me as more interesting was the fact of his offering it at all. Imagine an apprentice in a bookseller's shop in London conversing in that way with a customer in a foreign tongue! No wonder that the Germans are beating us in commerce!

* * * * *

A fund is being raised for that literary veteran, Dr. Charles Mackay, who is unhappily now both in reduced circumstances and in broken health. If every one who has enjoyed Dr. Mackay's songs—"Cheer, Boys, Cheer" and the rest of them—would contribute his mite, the sum necessary for ensuring the comfort of the aged writer would quickly be forthcoming. The treasurer of the fund is Dr. L. C. Alexander, Holly Lodge, Putney.

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Though most widely known for his songs, Dr. Mackay has in his time been one of the most versatile and industrious of workers in journalism, as well as in philology and literature. There is hardly a literary man of the last two generations who was not his friend or colleague, and the committee of the fund now being raised includes nearly every living "light" in art and literature.

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I see that the Director of the National Gallery states in his recently issued report that "a new edition of the larger Foreign Schools Catalogue" "is under revision and will shortly be published." The satisfaction which one is tempted to feel at this announcement is somewhat dashed by remembering that a similar announcement has appeared in every report for the last ten or eleven years. "Shortly" is an elastic word in the case of official publications.

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Meanwhile, may one suggest to Sir Frederick Burton to take a hint from the admirable new catalogue which the director of the Munich Gallery (the "old Pinakothek") has lately issued? The catalogue is a model of the concise information which one looks for in an official guide; and besides the ordinary issue, there is an illustrated edition with 120 admirably executed "phototypes" of the principal pictures. Special facilities have been given, Sir F. Burton tells us, to the well-known firm of Messrs. Braun and Co. for photographing the gems of the National Gallery. Why should not the opportunity be taken for producing an official illustrated catalogue on the Munich model?

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"Carlyle's youngest sister, Mrs. Aitken, died," says the *Athenaeum*, "on the 27th of July, at her residence, The Hill, Dumfries. She was a woman of fine character and strong intelligence. She very often appears in the biography and letters, usually under her family sobriquet 'The Crow,' given on account of her black hair."

X. Y. Z.

At Home and Abroad.

It is officially stated that there is no foundation for the report that the Queen is going to Baden. Her Majesty has no intention of again going to the Continent this year.

It was reported in the House of Commons last night that the adjournment for the Summer Recess will take place on Tuesday or Wednesday, the 14th or 15th inst. The *Daily News*, however, has reason to believe that the Government have made up their mind to bring the business to a close not later than next Saturday.

The German Emperor yesterday received at Potsdam, with all the pomp usual on such occasions, the Extraordinary Mission sent by the Sultan to congratulate his Majesty on his accession to the throne.

King Milan and the Crown Prince have gone to Berchtesgaden, in Bavaria, the Regency of the kingdom being entrusted to the Cabinet during his Majesty's two months' absence.

It is officially announced at Berlin that Pleasant Island, one of the Marshall group, has been placed under German protection. The importation of arms and ammunition in Pleasant Island is forbidden.

In a letter to Baron Kallay, the Emperor of Austria has expressed satisfaction at having learned from the reports of the Crown Prince that great progress has been made in the peaceful, intellectual, and material development of Bosnia.

Mr. Bayard, the United States Secretary of State, has forwarded to the Governor of Missouri an application from England for the respite of Maxwell, alias Brooks, the murderer of Mr. Preller.

Mail advices received at New York from Peru state that the Government has seized the Arequipa, Puno, and Cuzco Railway, and that the owner of the line, Mr. Thorndike, an American, intends forwarding a protest to Mr. Bayard.

The great Nova Scotia timber raft is now on the way to New York. It is towed by two tugs, and is making fair progress. The raft came out of the Bay of Fundy yesterday.

The revenue of New Zealand for the quarter ending June the 30th last amounted to £768,000, an increase of £41,000 as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

The Royal Rifle and Ammunition Works at Spandau are being considerably enlarged, in order that the similar factories hitherto carried on at Dantzig and Erfurt may be transferred there.

A letter from Lord Magheramorne was read at yesterday's meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works stating that he had for some time been in failing health, and had been ordered by his physician to take the waters at Carlsbad.

The first University founded in Siberia was opened yesterday. It is situated at Tomsk, in the province of the same name.

The Grand Committee on Law yesterday discussed the Liability of Trustees Bill, and sent it back to the House of Commons.

It is stated that the Nationalist members have decided to raise the question of Mr. John Mandeville's death by a motion for an adjournment next Thursday.

September 19 is the day fixed for the visit of Mr. Chamberlain to Bradford. In the evening of that day a Liberal Unionist demonstration will be held in St. George's-hall, and an address will be delivered by the right hon. gentleman.

Negotiations have, it is stated, been opened between Berlin and St. Petersburg, Stockholm, and Copenhagen, to arrive at an understanding concerning the Baltic. It is even alleged that the four Powers on that sea under certain circumstances might be disposed to declare it a "Mare Clausum."

Robert Edward Clark, a publican in Hackney, was fined £100 at the Dalston police-court yesterday for receiving two gallons of spirits without a proper permit from the Excise authorities. Ten days were allowed for payment.

Under the presidency of Professor Gairdner, the fifty-sixth meeting of the British Medical Association, which now numbers upwards of 12,000 members, and has forty-five branches in the United Kingdom, India, and the colonies, will be held in Glasgow on August 7, 8, 9, and 10.

A P. and O. steamer, name unknown, broke down off Ventnor about eleven o'clock yesterday morning. She hoisted disabled signals, three balls on the foremast, and having signalled the cause of delay to St. Catherine's, she proceeded at 2.30. The steamer, which was six miles to sea, was very busy signalling for three hours, but help from the local boats was refused.

Bernard Zeitlin, Spitalfields, was summoned to Worship-street police-court yesterday for selling methylated spirit as a beverage, and for selling wine without a licence. An apparatus for the manufacture of spirits had been found in the cellar. Mr. Bushby fined him £50 on the first summons, and £20 on the second.

Some interesting facts are contained in the report, just issued, of the committee appointed to make an antiquarian investigation in Canterbury Cathedral, particularly with reference to the grave of St. Thomas A'Beckett. A coffin has been found containing human bones enough to constitute a nearly complete skeleton.

Messrs. Gedge and Jennings, the Stockport members, laid the foundation stones of a Conservative Club at Stockport yesterday. Mr. Jennings said he could not believe but that many of the Irish party were as pure as his own child, and he could not understand their wish to limit the scope of the Parnell Commission.

As the result of inquiries made in the principal grazing districts of Derbyshire it has been ascertained that in most parts there have not been two successive fine days in seven weeks, and the grass crops cut during June and the month following are valueless, and in the majority of cases not worth the expense of getting in.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council sat yesterday to hear an appeal against a decision of the Archbishop of Canterbury, declining to entertain a petition alleging certain Ritualistic offences against the Bishop of Lincoln. The Lord Chancellor said their lordships would advise her Majesty to remit the petition to the Archbishop, to be dealt with according to law.

Late on Thursday night Mr. W. F. Goodwin, seventy, was found dead in a pool of water near Bexhill-on-Sea. He went to Hastings on Thursday to witness a cricket match, and returned by an afternoon train which did not stop at Bexhill, and he was taken on to Pevensey. He left the train there with the intention of walking from Pevensey to Bexhill, a distance of seven miles, and his body was subsequently found lying in a pithole at Pevensey Sluice.

At the Marylebone police-court yesterday, Patrick Gorman and Henry Lea, two young men, were charged with an assault upon Arthur Charlton. The case was one arising out of a faction fight between two gangs, the "Marylebone lads" and the "Fitzroy-place lads," and the fight grew out of the Regent's Park murder. The magistrates sentenced each of the prisoners to two months' hard labour.

THE ITALIAN OCCUPATION OF MASSOWAH.

HOISTING THE FLAG AT ZULA.

A detachment of marines, a Rome telegram says, has hoisted the Italian flag at Zula, to the south of Massowah, and the Italian protectorate over the locality has been formally proclaimed. The Italian Government has despatched a Note to the signatories of the General Act of the Berlin Conference informing them of the above step, which it declares to be merely an official confirmation of a previously existing fact. It is pointed out that the declaration of the protectorate has been made in compliance with the repeated demands of the population, and that the local sheikhs have expressed their satisfaction at the request being acceded to. The Note further observes that Zula, although nominally under the Egyptian flag, has for some time past been occupied by Italian irregulars, and at certain intervals by regular troops, and that there has been no previous *prise de possession* by any other Power.

THE FRENCH NOTE ON THE QUESTION.

M. Goblet sent yesterday to the French representatives with the Powers a Note upon the Massowah question. The Minister for Foreign Affairs points out in this document that the action of Italy against Massowah dates out from February 5, 1885, when the Italian Government declared to the Powers that its sole object was to protect the property of its subjects, and that there was no question of territorial extension. The date of the General Act of the Berlin Conference was February 16, 1885. The Italian Government, proceeds M. Goblet, have not since then made the notification of taking possession required by the Berlin Conference. Up to the end of 1885 the Egyptian flag continued to be hoisted at Massowah side by side with the Italian flag. But although the Egyptian garrison was then withdrawn, and Egypt relinquished at Massowah the police control which she exercised by virtue of a delegation from the Porte in order to save the Turkish troops stationed in Arabia from having to cross the Red Sea, the Italian Government as lately as last year, when establishing the blockade of Massowah, declared that the question of sovereignty was in abeyance, and should not be regarded as prejudiced in itself. "Under these circumstances," concludes M. Goblet, "there can be no doubt that the capitulations remained in force at Massowah at least up to the date of the despatch of the last Italian Note."

DESTRUCTIVE FLOODS IN SWITZERLAND.

Owing to the incessant rain, night and day, since Monday, the Lake of Lucerne has swollen enormously. The basement floors of the hotels on the quay are flooded, and parts of the promenade have fallen in through the force of the water. The low-lying houses of the old town are inundated, and further down the river Reuss several bridges have been destroyed. Considerable damage has also been done to the north of Lucerne. All the country between Erstfeld and Attinghausen is inundated. Parts of the St. Gothard Railway are under water, and a number of houses and bridges have been washed away. The rain still continues, and there is fresh snow on the mountains.

DIPHTHERIA IN THE SPANISH CAPITAL.

A Madrid telegram says:—The *Gazette* publishes a Circular from the Home Office prescribing a series of measures to check the spread of diphtheria, which has been raging for some time, and causing three or four deaths daily in the Spanish capital. It was prevalent throughout the winter and spring, chiefly among children and the poorer classes. The death-rate from this disease has been almost as high in Madrid as that from small-pox. Small-pox has been prevalent in many parts of Spain for the last two years, but is now on the decline.

TELEPHONE DEVELOPMENTS IN FRANCE.

The telephonic line between Paris and Marseilles is complete, and at ten o'clock yesterday M. Peytral, Minister of Finance, who is now at the latter city, conversed by telephone with M. Coulon, Director of Posts and Telegraphs in Paris. Several official personages were present both in Paris and Marseilles at this official inauguration of the line. The telephonic communication between these two cities will be open to the public next Monday. The charges are fixed as follows:—For five minutes' conversation between Paris and Marseilles, three francs; between Paris and Lyons, two francs; between Lyons and Marseilles, one franc fifty centimes, and *vice versa*.

POPULARIZING THE PHONOGRAPH.

Mr. Edison has cabled to Colonel Gourand, Little Menlo, Upper Norwood, that, in deference to numerous requests, he has despatched several phonographs, to be placed at the disposal of the scientific and learned societies of Great Britain in such a manner as Colonel Gourand may determine, and, so far as possible, in the order of priority of date of the applications received. These instruments will contain several new devices for rendering audible to small audiences the sounds emitted. Colonel Gourand has been invited to read a paper on the subject at the forthcoming meeting of the British Association, on which occasion the phonograph will probably make its first public appearance in England.

THE SUSPENSION OF A COUNTRY BANK.

The Thrapston and Kettering Bank (Messrs. Eland and Eland) suspended payment yesterday. A notice affixed to the bank premises states that the bank is unable to meet engagements owing to failure in getting in advances. The great agricultural depression had had a disastrous effect upon the business. To mitigate inconvenience to its customers the bank has made arrangements with the Stamford, Spalding, and Boston Banking Company (Limited) to take over the business with an assignment of the assets, on the terms that the Stamford, Spalding, and Boston Bank will advance conditionally to customers of the Thrapston and Kettering Bank, or on its bank-notes, to the amount of 10s. in the pound. The remainder of the indebtedness is to be discharged, as far as practicable, from the amount obtained by realization of the assets by the Stamford, Spalding, and Boston Bank, who will enter upon the banking premises at Kettering and Thrapston at a price agreed upon. The business of the Thrapston and Kettering Bank is entirely confined to the district, and its customers are nearly all farmers and other agriculturists.

DEAFNESS CURED.—A very interesting and free illustrated book on Deafness, Nerves in the head; how they may be cured at your Home. Post free, 3d.—Address Dr. NICHOLSON, 21, BEDFORD-SQUARE, LONDON, W.

THE PALL MALL BUDGET is sent post free to any address in the United Kingdom for 4s. 11d. per quarter.

A HUNDRED AND FIFTY-EIGHT MILES WITHOUT A HALT.

SOMETHING UNIQUE IN RAILWAY HISTORY.

The railway world has hardly recovered from the shock with which it learned last week that the North Western was going to run to Edinburgh in eight hours and a half, and that the Great Northern had promptly replied with a promise of eight hours—a promise which was something more than kept on Wednesday and Thursday last—when it hears that the West Coast also is going to reduce its time to eight hours. On and after Monday next, it is just announced, the 10 o'clock express will reach Edinburgh at 6 P.M. instead of 6.30, as has been the time this week. Perhaps the most remarkable feature of the change is that the stop at Rugby disappears, and the train runs through from London to Crewe, 158 miles, without a halt. This, says the *Times*, is thirty-four miles longer than the two next longest runs in England, those from London to Nottingham on the 10.40 A.M. from St. Pancras, and from Newcastle to Edinburgh on the 7.45 and 8 P.M. from King's Cross, which are practically equal at 124 miles apiece. What is more, it is 12 miles longer than that which has hitherto been the longest run in the world, the 146 miles from Fort Wayne to Chicago on the Limited Express via the Pennsylvania line. So we may fairly say that Monday morning will see a performance that will be simply unique in railway history. That it is physically possible at all is, of course, owing to the system of water-troughs, from which water can be taken up as the train is running.

ACCUSING AN ARCHBISHOP OF BLASPHEMY.

SINGULAR SCENE IN A CHURCH.

The extraordinary doings of a certain Pastor Thümmel now occupy a very large share of attention in the German press. It appears that some days ago Pastor Thümmel delivered a lecture in an Evangelical church at Solingen on the adoration of the relics which has recently taken place at Aix-la-Chapelle. Towards the conclusion of his sermon or lecture Pastor Thümmel roundly accused the Archbishop of Cologne and the canons of Aix-la-Chapelle of blasphemy and the breach of the third Commandment. At this point the burgomaster of Solingen, who was present in the church, declared the meeting to be at an end, and ordered the congregation to depart. A highly painful scene of great excitement ensued, and the pastor has declared his intention of prosecuting the burgomaster for brawling in a place of worship.

THE DISASTROUS EXPLOSION AT WANDSWORTH.

FEARFUL DEATH OF TWO SISTERS.

A terrible explosion, resulting in the loss of two lives, occurred, as already briefly reported, at the fireworks factory of Messrs. Cadwell and Co., Garrett-lane, Wandsworth, yesterday afternoon. This firm are large manufacturers of the paper percussion caps which are used for toy pistols. Three sheds, situated in a field at the side of Garrett-lane, are used for this purpose, and between one and two o'clock yesterday two sisters, named Eliza and Elizabeth Thornton, who were in the employ of Cadwell, were having their dinner in the centre shed. They were joined by two other girls, Lucy Horwood and Rose Sawyer, who had been home during the dinner hour. About five minutes to two a terrific explosion was heard. People in the vicinity who rushed to the spot were horrified to find that of the centre shed nothing remained but a few charred embers, while that on its left was in flames. The third shed was shattered, and its contents utterly destroyed. The unfortunate sisters Thornton were found to be dead; their bodies, which were mangled almost beyond recognition, being discovered some yards from the hut in which the explosion had occurred. The other two girls Horwood and Sawyer were also fearfully injured, and it is feared that there is little hope of recovery for either. So terrific was the force of the explosion that the boots of one of the unfortunate victims were almost blown from her feet. The dead bodies were taken at once to the mortuary, and the injured girls conveyed to the Wandsworth Infirmary. The origin of the disaster is unknown. The centre shed referred to was used for the purpose of cutting up the caps, which are manufactured in large sheets. An inspector from the Home Office visited the premises during the afternoon, and the news of the accident attracted crowds of sightseers. The deceased girls Thornton are said to have been the main support of their parents, their father having been an invalid for many years. A sad episode of the terrible calamity was witnessed in the evening near the works, where Mrs. Thornton was wandering about in an apparently demented condition, surrounded by a sympathetic crowd.

LONDON SUBURBS UNDER WATER.

The river Lea rose to a great height yesterday, the flood being far in excess of the height reached previously. The marsh-land from Lea Bridge right through to Tottenham was entirely submerged, the water in some points being six feet deep. Along the Lea Bridge-road, from the bridge to the pleasure-gardens, the fields were entirely covered, the water being several feet deep in places, whereas on Thursday morning they were only partly flooded. Boating parties rowed over some of the fields yesterday, their appearance in such places being novel and unusual. The lands have not been submerged to such an extent for many years. The flood-gates of the East London Waterworks were kept open continuously, causing a strong current in the river. On the Great Eastern Railway the line was partly submerged between Seven Sisters and West Green stations. Last evening the water was gradually subsiding.

THE RICHMOND MYSTERY A MYSTERY STILL.

The inquest on the body of Police-constable Ellis, the late warrant officer of Richmond, was opened yesterday by Mr. Braxton Hicks. From the evidence it appeared that the deceased on Tuesday night received a distress warrant to serve at Mortlake for the non-payment of some fine at the Richmond police-court. He had previously been spoken to by the inspector about some dereliction of discipline, and had been requested to make a report upon it by order of Superintendent Saines, who, while driving through Richmond, saw the deceased laughing and taking part in some fun which was going on in the street. He did not appear to be upset about the matter. Mr. Lowther, solicitor, of Richmond, said he saw Ellis at Richmond railway station on Tuesday evening. He told witness that he was going to Isleworth. He was perfectly sober at the time, and witness thought it possible that in descending the steps to cross the water by ferry from Richmond to Isleworth he slipped and fell into the water. The medical evidence went to show that there were no marks of violence, and that the deceased died from drowning. The inquest was adjourned for a week.

NOTICE.—MONDAY NEXT, being Bank Holiday, ONE EDITION only of the PALL MALL GAZETTE will be published.

FOURTH EDITION.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

THE MURDERER OF MR. PRELLER.

WASHINGTON, August 4.—The Hon. Sackville West, British Minister here, has requested that a further respite may be granted to Brooks, alias Maxwell, the murderer of Mr. Preller. Mr. Bayard has referred him to the Governor of Missouri, stating at the same time that he finds no international aspects in the case nor any possibility of federal interference.

THE SULTAN'S PRESENT TO THE EMPEROR.

BERLIN, August 4.—The semi-official *North German Gazette* to-day states that Munir Pasha, the Sultan's Special Envoy, is the bearer of an autograph letter of his Majesty to the Emperor William, accompanied by a valuable gift consisting of a gold casket set with brilliants containing a complete smoking set.

INUNDATIONS IN SILESIA.

BERLIN, August 4.—Extensive inundations, caused by the continuous rainfall, are reported from Silesia and Elbing. Railway traffic has been interrupted in several places. The crops are stated to be ruined by the rains and floods.

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS TO-DAY.

The Speaker took the chair in the House of Commons at 12.15.

COMMUTATION OF NAVAL AND MILITARY PENSIONS.—In reply to Sir George Campbell, Mr. St. John Brodrick said that the whole subject of the commutation of military and naval pensions was now under the consideration of the Secretary of State for War, but he was not in a position to say what decision would be arrived at on the subject.

"MR. PARNELL'S OWN COERCION BILL."

The London correspondent of the *Birmingham Post* writes:—"It is not impossible that the terms of 'Mr. Parnell's own Coercion Bill' may yet see the light, for I am assured that there is a great deal more behind the reference than the public generally supposes, even with the very specific hint of Captain O'Shea to guide it."

MR. CAINE AS "MR. GREGSBURY, M.P."

Mr. W. S. Caine (remarks the *Liverpool Mercury*) has an uneasy seat at Barrow. There has just been issued a reprint of a series of letters published in the local *Herald*, the effect of which cannot but be considerable in the constituency. Mr. Caine is compared to Dickens's "Mr. Gregsbury, M.P." who, although accused by his constituents of broken pledges, concluded that he would retain his seat. There are many Mr. Gregsburies in the House of Commons at present.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON TOWN HOLDINGS.

The report of the Select Committee on town holdings is issued this morning. The Committee state they will not be able to conclude their inquiry this session. They hope it may not be necessary to call further witnesses as to terms of occupation and compensation for improvements, or as to the expediency of giving to leaseholders facilities for the purchase of the fee simple of their property, but they desire to take further evidence upon the question of imposing a direct assessment on the owners of ground rents and on the owners of increased values imparted to land by building operations or other improvements. They accordingly recommend that the Committee be reappointed next session for the purpose of receiving such additional evidence as they may think necessary and also of reporting on the several branches of the inquiry.

TRAFFIC STILL SUSPENDED ON THE SOUTHEAST RAILWAY.

The Southeast and Tilbury Railway between Rainham and Purfleet is still under water, and traffic has been entirely suspended since midday on Thursday. Passengers to and from Southeast and London have to cross the river Thames and proceed by the South Eastern line. Traffic with the Tilbury Docks has to be carried on by water. The Tilbury Company has been working day and night to get the line in working order for the holiday traffic.

THE POPE LOAN MUSEUM.

We are requested to state that the Pope Loan Museum, in the town hall, Twickenham, will remain open over Monday (Bank Holiday), when the price of admission will be reduced to sixpence. Twickenham presents many attractions besides this highly interesting museum, and no doubt many pleasure-seekers will stop at the little village for an hour or so on their way in search of more exciting pleasures.

PITMAN'S PHONOGRAPHY v. SCRIPT PHONOGRAPHY.

Mr. Oliver McEwan, the principal of the London College of Shorthand, intimates his "abandonment of Pitman's system of shorthand in favour of script phonography after many years most successful teaching of the former system." "After an exhaustive examination and study of the latter system," he writes, "I have come, I must confess somewhat reluctantly, to the conclusion that script phonography is so far superior to the Pitman system in the three important points of simplicity, legibility, and brevity as to seem a dream of the imagination. At the end of September or the beginning of October I purpose holding an examination, and it will then be seen what pupils have attained speeds in writing varying from 60 to 120 words per minute, after eight weeks' study."

A CLASSIFICATION OF BOROUGHES.

A parliamentary return published this morning gives a classified statement of the boroughs of England. There are 44 boroughs with a population of 50,000 and upwards; 118 with a population between 50,000 and 10,000; and 121 with a population under 10,000. There are 18 boroughs which are counties of cities or counties of towns; 216 boroughs which have separate commissions of the peace; 19 boroughs appointing their own sheriff; and 121 boroughs not having separate police establishments.

THE NEW ITALIAN AMBASSADOR TO LONDON.

Count Robilant, the new Italian Ambassador to the Court of St. James, arrived last night in London, and will to-day take possession of the Embassy in Grosvenor-square, which has been vacant for over a year. It is remembered that Count Corti, the last Ambassador, was not allowed to return to his post after his leave of absence in 1887, and the grief over his sudden and almost scandalous recall brought him soon to the grave. Count Robilant's appointment to the post dates as far back as February last and since then it has often appeared as doubtful whether his appointment would not after all be cancelled. Count Robilant is generally believed to be the ablest living Italian diplomatist, he is an exceptionally *grata persona* at the Quirinal, but his political ideas are scarcely very much in accord with those of Signor Crispi. The Robilants are an ancient Piedmontese, or rather Savoyard, family. On the mother's side the Ambassador is distantly connected with the Hohenzollerns; on his wife's side, who is the daughter of the immensely wealthy Prince Clary-Aldringen, of Teplitz, in Bohemia, he is in relation with the Radziwills and Ignatieffs. In his youth and early manhood Count Robilant was a soldier; he fought in 1859 and 1866 and lost his right arm. Afterwards he was for a short time Prefect, and in 1873 was appointed Ambassador to Vienna, a post which he filled to the greatest satisfaction for ten years. His popularity and hospitality were proverbial in the Austrian capital, and will be remembered for a long time to come. In 1884 Depretis offered him and he accepted the portfolio for Foreign Affairs, which however he was not able to hold very long. As an ex-soldier and polite-mannered diplomatist he did not feel at home in the parliamentary atmosphere of Montecitorio, and after little more than one year's trying experiments he resigned office. He is now sixty-two years old, in fairly robust health, and his countrymen are expecting great things of his sojourn in England.

THE PARNELL INQUISITION BILL.

When the report stage of this bill is reached on Monday night, Sir Wilfrid Lawson proposes to move an amendment declining to appoint a Commission to inquire into vague and indefinite charges, and demanding that these shall be formulated and the accused persons named. That amendment having been disposed of, there will be several others to follow. Mr. John Morley will probably again put down his proposed new clause authorizing the Commission to make interim reports, and the Nationalists, though nothing had been settled on the point up to late last night, will most likely move the more material amendments which had not been reached when the closure was applied. Mr. Labouchere has handed in a motion for a new clause to provide that "nothing in this Act shall relieve the printers or publishers of any libel or libels published before the passing of this Act from any civil or criminal liability"; while Sir John Simon has once more put down his amendments designed to prevent the indemnity clauses from applying to the proprietor, editor, and publishers of the *Times*.

The members of the Government understand that the Judicial Commission will begin to sit on or about the 1st October. Mr. Justice Day has not, as the Parnellites hoped, been intimidated by the attacks made upon him by Mr. Morley and others on Monday night. He and Sir J. Hannen will in the course of a few days enter upon a holiday, to return to town towards the end of September. To-day gossips have been busy as to who the secretary of the Royal Commission shall be.

A LEAP FROM BROOKLYN BRIDGE.

A Staten Island young man, Matthew Byrnes, has been emulating his foolhardy fellow-countryman, Lawrence Donovan, by jumping from Brooklyn Bridge yesterday, presumably for a wager. Either in the descent or when he struck the water he sustained internal injuries, which it is feared will prove fatal. He was picked up from the river by a tug, and conveyed to a hospital. He is only twenty-one years of age.

THE GOVERNMENT AND CANNOCK CHASE.

A movement is being actively promoted, says the London correspondent of the *Scotsman*, by certain members of the House of Commons and other gentlemen in Staffordshire, in the hope of inducing the National Rifle Association in the event of Richmond Park being denied to them, as it is now generally believed it will be, to think of Cannock Chase as a permanent site and camp for their annual competitions. It is believed that the Government propose to purchase a portion of the land adjoining the Chase for a great central military arsenal under the newly-suggested national defence arrangements. This circumstance is put forward as an additional inducement for the National Rifle Association to decide in favour of this site.

The Speaker of the House of Commons entered upon his sixtieth year yesterday.

Mr. Gladstone, who is expected at Hawarden Castle towards the middle of the week, will spend a portion of the recess at Penmaenmawr, his favourite watering-place on the North Wales coast.

Mr. Edward M. Borrajo and Mr. B. Kettle have been appointed sub-librarians of the Guildhall Library.

Mr. H. Bracy announces that he has leased the Avenue Theatre for a short season of comedy and burlesque, commencing on Saturday, the 25th inst.

Admiral Tryon is hoping to escape out of Bantry Bay with his fleet (less the *Rupert*, which is slower than any of the enemy's ships) to-night.

By permission of Mr. Superintendent McHugo, the band of the "R" division metropolitan police, will play in Greenwich Park on Tuesday afternoon next, from four to six o'clock.

A fine specimen of the honey buzzard (*Pernis apivorus*) was shot in the Marquis of Anglesey's park at Beaudesert, Rugeley, on the 27th ult. It is a rare visitor to England.

A penny subscription has been opened by leading Irishmen in Birmingham for a presentation to Mr. Gladstone on the occasion of his visit to the town. A large number of subscriptions have already been received.

Lord Granville has acceded to a request which Sir U. Kay-Shuttleworth, as president of the Manchester Reform Club, has made to him, and will be the guest of the club at a dinner in the autumn—probably in the earlier half of November.

It is said that Sir John Lubbock has bought the estate of Kirkstall, which includes the ruins of Kirkstall Abbey. If the statement is true, it is to be hoped that the ancient fabric, hallowed by Time's touch and rich in memories of a bygone age, will remain open to the public.

AMERICAN ACTORS AT STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

THE AMERICANS ANXIOUS TO ANNEX.

Without a doubt, says the *Birmingham Post*, the most attractive performance that has been given within the walls of the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, took place last night, when, in aid of the funds of the quickly-growing Memorial Library, Mr. Augustin Daly's admirably drilled company of American comedians gratuitously gave their services in their excellent and world-famous rendering of "The Taming of the Shrew." Not only had American players journeyed to Shakspeare's birthplace to pay their tribute to his immortal memory, but the play is one (since on this occasion the generally omitted "induction" was happily given) in which, above all others, Shakspeare's early associations with Warwickshire are made manifest. "Am not I," asks the beer-bemused tinker, "Christopher Sly, old Sly's son, of Burton Heath?" and is not Burton Heath the little village known as Barton Heath, which to-day nestles close to the "drunken" Bidford of Shakspearean renown? "Ask Marian Hacket, the fat alewife of Wincot, if she know me not," says Sly, later on; and assuredly the Wincot here alluded to is not, as some critics would have us believe, the Woodmancot (vulgarly pronounced "Woncot") of Gloucestershire, but the Wilmcote hard by Stratford, which nowadays can boast of a railway station, through which the Daly company would have to pass in their laudable pilgrimage to the Memorial Theatre.

Last night's performance went off admirably. The theatre was crowded with a fashionable and enthusiastic audience, and the Daly company played at their best. The piece was handsomely mounted. The leading members of the company had been entertained at luncheon at Avon Bank, the residence of Mr. Flower, yesterday afternoon, among the guests being Lord Ronald Gower, Viscount Gower, and others. Mr. Daly, responding to the toast of his health, expressed the pleasure it afforded him and his company to come to Stratford-on-Avon, Shakspeare's own town, and give a performance of one of his matchless plays. The American nation venerated Stratford-on-Avon, and would be glad to annex it as their own.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT LEICESTER.

A Leicester telegram states that the boot factory of Messrs. Whitfield and Son, Belgrave, together with a large stock of machinery, was totally destroyed by fire this morning.

LEARNED LADIES OF DUBLIN UNIVERSITY.

Miss Letitia A. Walkington, Master of Arts of the Royal University, Ireland, has the distinction not only of being the first lady graduate in arts, but also the first to take a degree in laws, having passed most creditably, after private study, the examination for LL.B., just held at Dublin. About a dozen Irish ladies have passed the recent examinations for the degree of B.A.

POLICE RAID ON A LONDON CLUB.

A raid was made yesterday afternoon on the Myrtle Club, Hoxton. Superintendent Hunt and Detective Inspector Peel, with a number of the detective staff, went to the club, forced open the doors, and entered the premises, taking every precaution to prevent the escape of any of the members. A large body of constables assisted, and the detectives pointed out to them the principals, who had been observed beforehand making bets as if they were on a racecourse—men, with satchels, standing on stools and shouting out the names of horses. The excitement among those in the club was intense, some making for the doors to get out, but there they were blocked by police, and, after something like order had been obtained, the names and addresses of the whole of the persons who were upon the premises were taken down, while the principals were arrested, including the president and four men, who will be brought before the magistrate at Worship-street this morning. Cards, dice, and a large amount of money were seized.

THE JOHN LEECH MEMORIAL FUND.

Mr. Whitehorne, Q.C., of Lincoln's Inn, the treasurer of the fund now being raised for the help of the sisters of John Leech, has received nearly £800 for that object, and it is hoped that this sum will be increased to £1,000, so that annuities for these three aged ladies can be secured. So far most of the subscriptions have come from the provinces.

REPORTS OF CRICKET MATCHES.

Three matches were continued yesterday, two of them brought to a conclusion, and the other was adjourned much in favor of the Australians. At Tonbridge, Kent beat Sussex after a most exciting finish, by 6 wickets. Kent went in a second time to obtain 45 runs, and their total was next raised to 100, the desired number for the loss of four wickets, but then ensued a most wonderful performance on the part of Tate. In his first over he got two wickets, both falling at 41; in his second he dismissed another batsman, and in his fourth over two more fell to him. The last man on the field went in when two runs were wanted, and obtained them in three balls, but both were tremendously risky ones. At Nottingham, Notts, who obtained 124 and 115 respectively, were beaten by Gloucestershire, who obtained 177 in their first innings, and made the requisite 65 to win with the loss of 10 wickets. The Australians met an English eleven at Hastings, and scored 163 in their first innings, but made short work of the English team, who they dismissed for 53 runs, Turner taking eight wickets for 13 runs.

their first things, but made		taking eight wickets for 13 runs.	
		AUSTRALIANS.—First Innings.	
M'Donnell, c Wright, b Wainwright	35	Lewis, b Wright	23
Trott, c Hall, b Wainwright	6	Lyons, c Wright, b Suthery	32
Bonnor, b Wainwright	0	Ferris, c Suthery, b Peel	9
Turner, c Mordaunt, b H. Pigg	15	Worrall, not out	13
Blackham, b Pougner	7	Extras	5
Bannerman, c Pigg, b Wainwright	17		
Edwards, run out	1	Total	160
		AN ENGLAND ELEVEN.—First Innings.	
Phillips, l b w, b Turner	3	C. Pigg, b Turner	0
Suthery, b Turner	0	Dunne, b Turner	3
Mordaunt, b Turner	0	Pougner, b Turner	0
Hall, b Ferris	4	Wright, not out	5
H. Pigg, b Turner	4	Extras	5
Wainwright, b Ferris	13		
Peel, b Turner	13	Total	53
		Suthery, not out, 2; Wright, st Blackham, b Turner, 4; total, 6.	

SECOND INNINGS.—Suthery, not out, 2; Wright, st Blackham, b Turner, 4; total, 6.

FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TO-DAY.



THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

One o'clock.

MARKETS INACTIVE AND WITHOUT FEATURE.

The demand for money in connection with holiday requirements having been pretty well satisfied during the last few days, there is only a very quiet inquiry for accommodation in the open market this morning, and the quotation for short loans is no better than $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 per cent., the latter charge being for advances over the Stock Exchange settlement, which takes place next week. There is no alteration in the discount market: operators are still indisposed to work at anything below $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. on three months' bank paper, and the market is firm.

The Stock markets present quite a holiday appearance, many of the members having left town yesterday till after Monday. The amount of business transacted is on the smallest possible scale, and the variations are insignificant. Consols are steady without material alteration, while in the Home Railway market there is little doing. Some sales have been made of the Deferred stocks of the southern lines to secure profits after the recent substantial advance; but the stocks of the underground lines are firm. Foreign Government Bonds are lifeless; but there have been a few transactions in the American Railroad department, where values are somewhat irregular. The movements here, however, in no instance exceed $\frac{1}{4}$. Grand Trunk stocks are the turn harder, but Mexican Railway issues have given way. The traffic return of the last-named company, which was due last Tuesday, is just to hand. It shows a total take of £14,100 with a decrease of £200 compared with the corresponding week last year. Mining shares and industrial companies' shares are neglected.

The Stock market at New York yesterday opened heavy under some pressure to sell from foreigners, but the offerings were soon absorbed, and dulness with a firm to strong undertone was the only feature of the day. Some improvement took place in the afternoon, and the closing was dull, but steady generally at slight advances over the opening quotation.

The Bank of England give notice that, as the result of an arrangement between the Secretary of State for India and the East Indian Railway Company, they will, on Monday, the 3rd of September next, assume the management of the East Indian Railway Irredeemable £4 10s. per cent. Debenture stock. On and after the date named transfer deeds must be lodged at the Chief Accountant's Office, Bank of England. The next dividend will be payable on the 1st October, and the balance for the same will be struck on 1st September.

The following are the latest changes compared with last night's closing:—

In Home Railways.—Improved: District and Metropolitan $\frac{1}{4}$, and Sheffield Deferred $\frac{1}{8}$. Lower: Brighton Deferred $\frac{3}{8}$, Chatham Preference $\frac{1}{4}$, Great Western, North British, and South Eastern $\frac{1}{8}$.

Among Foreign Stocks.—Advanced: Egyptian State Domain $\frac{1}{4}$, the Unified 1-16, and Turkish Groups 3 and 4 1-16. Declined: Mexican $\frac{1}{8}$, and Peruvian 1872 1-16.

American Railroads.—Risen: New York Central, Missouri, Kansas, and Texas, and Erie Second Mortgage $\frac{1}{4}$, Denver Ordinary and Preference, Milwaukee and St. Paul, and Philadelphia and Reading shares $\frac{1}{8}$. Fallen: Norfolk and Western Preference $\frac{1}{4}$, Central Pacific, Ontario shares, Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary, and Union Pacific $\frac{1}{8}$.

As regards Canadian and Foreign Railways.—Higher: Grand Trunk Second Preference $\frac{1}{4}$, and the First and Third Preference $\frac{1}{8}$. Lower: Mexican First and Second Preferences $\frac{1}{4}$, the Ordinary $\frac{1}{8}$, Canadian Pacific $\frac{1}{8}$, and Grand Trunk Ordinary 1-16.

De Beers diamond mining shares are up $\frac{1}{8}$, and Hotchkiss Ordinary $\frac{1}{8}$; but Allsopp shares are down $\frac{1}{8}$.

The letters of allotment in the Brewers' Investment Corporation (Limited) have been sent out.

The weekly return of the Imperial Bank of Germany shows a decrease in the cash in hand of £293,000, and in the note circulation of £62,000. There is little change in the "other securities" and advances on stocks, but the public deposits have fallen off £1,118,000.

The accounts of the Milwall Dock Company for the past half-year allow of the payment of a dividend on the Ordinary stock at the rate of £2 10s. per cent. per annum, as against £2 per cent. per annum for the corresponding half-year of 1887. The balance to be carried forward will be £1,875 as against £1,676 in 1887.

The directors of Barclay and Sons (Limited) have issued warrants for an interim dividend of 1s 6d. per share on the Ordinary shares.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares:—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		Brighton (Ordinary)		London and County	
Consols	103 3/4	Do. A.	123 1/2	Union of London	38 9/16
New Consols 2 1/2	99 1/2	Chatham (Ordinary)	21 1/2	London and West	65 1/2
Reduced 3 p. c.	101 1/2	Do. Preference	100 1/4	London Joint Stock	38 1/2
Local Loans Stock	103 1/2	North Western	17 1/2	Nat. Prov. of Brit	42 1/2
New 2 1/2 per Cent	105 1/2	South Western	13 1/2	Stand. Bk. S. Africa	40 1/2
1st Div. 3 p. c.	105 1/2	Manchester & S. A.	57 1/2	MISCELLANEOUS.	
Do. 4 1/2 p. c. Rus	70 1/2	Do. A.	35 1/2	Indian Consolidated	5 16 7/16
Egyptian Govt.	102 1/2	Met. Consolidated	75 1/2	Mysore Shares	3 1/2
Met. Bd. Wks.	113 1/2	Do. Land Stock	71 1/2	Oreoguns	1 1/4
Do. 3 p. c. S. A.	103 1/2	Do. District	35 1/2	Cape Copper	3 1/2
Birmingham Crp. Stk	109 1/2	Midland	13 1/2	Namagua	3 1/2
Liverpool	110 1/2	North British	13 1/2	Mason and Barry	9 1/2
FOREIGN STOCKS.		North Eastern	15 1/2	Rio Tinto	12 1/2
Argentina 6 p. c.	103 1/2	North Stafford	107 1/2	Montana (Gates)	17 16 9/16
Do. Hard Dis.	70 1/2	South Eastern	123 1/2	De Beers	25 1/2
Do. Treasury	97 1/2	Do. De. eral	101 1/2	Kimberley Cent.	29 1/2
Austrian Gold	92 1/2	FOREIGN RAILWAYS.		TELEGRAPHIC AND TELEPHONE.	
Do. Silver	65 1/2	Canada Pacific	59 1/2	Anglo-American	41 1/2
Brazilian 1875	107 1/2	Gen. Pacific	35 1/2	Do. Pref.	03 1/2
B. Ayres 6 p. c.	102 1/2	Chic. Mil. and St. P.	74 1/2	Direct Unit. States	9 1/2
Do. Celulas	63 1/2	Denver & R. Grants	19 1/2	Eastern	12 1/2
Chilian 4 p. c. 1881	101 1/2	Do. Pref.	49 1/2	Ditto Extension	13 1/2
Costa Rica A.	81 1/2	Illinois	124 1/2	United Telephone	13 1/2
Do. B.	89 1/2	Lake Shore	9 1/2	Globe Tel. Co.	0 7
Egypt State Dom	101 1/2	Ohio & Mississippi	24 1/2	TRAMWAYS, ETC.	
Do. Unified	83 1/2	Louisiana Nash St	6 1/2	London Gen. O. N.	8 1/2
Do. Preference	101 1/2	Mex. Cen. North	63 1/2	London Street	14 1/2
Do. Daira Sanit.	79 1/2	Do. Nat. "A"	61 1/2	London Tramway	14 1/2
French p. c. Rats	82 1/2	Miss. Kan. & Pac.	14 1/2	North Metropolitan	18 1/2
Do. 4 1/2 p. c. Rats	105 1/2	N. Y. Cen. State	100 1/2	WATERWORKS.	
Greek p. c. 1881	73 1/2	New York Ontario	16 1/2	Chelsea Waterworks	251 1/2
Hung. Gold Rents	82 1/2	Erie Shares	87 1/2	East London	195 1/2
Italian	95 1/2	Do. Sec. Mort.	100 1/2	Grand Junction	123 1/2
Mexican Converted	33 1/2	Norfolk & West. P.	51 1/2	Kent	270 1/2
Peruvian p. c. 7 1/2	135 1/2	N. Y. P. & O. 1st Mt	37 1/2	Lambeth	256 1/2
Do. 6 p. c.	63 1/2	North Pacific Pref.	53 1/2	New River, New	343 1/2
Portuguese	27 1/2	Pennsylvania 1	55 1/2	St. Wulfric & Vauxhall	101 1/2
Russian 1873	72 1/2	Philad. Real. St	32 1/2	S. W. Midland	234 1/2
Spanish 4 1/2 p. c.	97 1/2	Union Pacific	60 1/2	Gaslight & Coke A	250 1/2
Turkish 1854	51 1/2	Wabash Preferred	25 1/2	Imp. Continental	205 1/2
Group 1	14 1/2	Do. Gen. Mort.	44 1/2	South Metropolitan	315 1/2
Group 2	14 1/2	Grand Trunk St.	57 1/2	Brush Elec. Lt. Co.	11 3
Groups 3 and 4	14 1/2	Do. First Pref.	57 1/2	MISCELLANEOUS.	
4 1/2 p. c. 1871	85 1/2	Do. Second Pref.	21 1/2	Allsopp	9 1/2
5 p. c. Defence	82 1/2	Do. Third Pref.	21 1/2	Guinness and Co.	372 1/2
5 p. c. Priority	82 1/2	Do. Guaranteed	66 1/2	Hotchkiss	10 1/2
Uruguay United	7 1/2	Mexican Ordinary	46 1/2	Hotchkiss and May	13 1/2
Virginia Funded	43 1/2	Do. First Pref.	119 1/2	Spratt's Patent	9 1/2
U.S. 4 1/2 p. c.	109 1/2	Do. de. and Pref.	78 1/2	P. and O. Steam	62 1/2
BRITISH RAILWAYS.		Lombardo-Venician	8 1/2	Royal Mail Stea	59 1/2
Caledonian	105 1/2	Varna 3 per Cent	6 1/2	Nat. Discount Co	11 1/2
Great Eastern	67 1/2	Nitrate Railway	25 1/2	Hudson's Bay	20 1/2
Great Northern	117 1/2	BANKS.		Suez Canal	80 1/2
Ditto A.	103 1/2	Alliance Bank	13 1/2	E. & W. Ind. Disp	24 1/2
Great Western	119 1/2	City Bank	10 1/2	London and S.	24 1/2
Hull and Barnsley	30 1/2	Consolidated Bank	7 1/2	Nathaniel	23 1/2
100 and York	117 1/2	Imperial Ottoman	10 1/2		

COLONEL SOWERBY'S STRUGGLE WITH THE STAG.

A COURAGEOUS ATTEMPT AT RESCUE.

It is rarely that a coroner's jury in this country has so exciting and fascinating a story presented to it as was told yesterday at the inquest upon the body of Colonel George Sowerby, of Putteridge Park, near Luton, Bedfordshire, who was gored to death by a pet stag on Thursday.

"Look, He's Down!"

From the evidence it appeared that Mr. H. Leatham Sworder, of Buntingford, a young gentleman in delicate health, on a visit to his friends at Luton, had driven over to Putteridge, with his cousin, Miss Clara Sworder, with a view to getting permission to photograph the herd of deer in the park. Colonel Sowerby immediately gave his consent, and showed them over the house, as well as the extensive collection of curiosities in his museum. It was then found that the deer were a long way across the park, and Colonel Sowerby invited them to go and see a pair of spotted deer which a friend in Egypt had sent him a couple of years ago. These were kept in a special paddock not far from the house. The stag being of a surly disposition was kept muzzled. No stranger dared to touch the animal, but the Colonel had been accustomed to fondle it with impunity. The stag is small but powerful, with antlers of immense size and particularly sharp tines. The Colonel entered the paddock and Mr. Sworder was following, when he said, "Don't come, as you are a stranger," and, laughing, he added, "Perhaps it may run at me." Mr. Sworder proceeded to undo his camera, and his cousin went to assist him. Looking round directly after she saw the Colonel on the ground, and the stag butting at him. She screamed, "Look, he's down!" and Mr. Sworder instantly jumped over the fence, taking the tripod of his camera as a weapon, and went to his aid, shouting also for help.

THE COLONEL GORED—MR. SWORDER TOSSED.

The Colonel, who was fifty-five years of age, was on his back pinned down by the stag's antlers, and he had a gash under the eye. Mr. Sworder got a knife to stab the animal, but the Colonel said, "All right, we'll manage him." The stag then made another rush at the fallen Colonel, which Mr. Sworder stopped by laying hold of its antlers. In the struggle he was tossed over its head. The beast became more infuriated, and before Mr. Sworder could recover himself thrust twice more at the prostrate and bleeding gentleman. Again Mr. Sworder seized the stag, and by great efforts managed to hold it till help had been fetched by Miss Sworder. In a few minutes three other men had come to the enclosure, and they, with Mr. Sworder, threw the stag over the fence, and it bounded across the park. The Colonel was then bleeding very much from a wound in the thigh; and Mr. Sworder tied his own handkerchief round it to staunch the effusion, and took the Colonel's from his pocket to put on the gash on his forehead. He was carried into his house in an unconscious state, and the housekeeper, Mrs. Fox, gave him some brandy, but after a few gasps he died. He had sustained wounds of a superficial character on the face, side, and thigh, and a fatal gash below the collar bone four inches long, and penetrating to the heart. This, the doctor said, must have been given when the Colonel was on the ground. Major Wilkinson, as representing the Sowerby family, said they felt there was not the slightest blame attaching to Mr. Sworder. On the contrary, they felt he had shown great courage by the way he acted. None of the witnesses could offer any explanation of the outbreak of the fury on the part of the stag. The jury immediately returned a verdict of accidental death, and added an expression of satisfaction at Mr. Sworder's conduct. The stag was shot on Thursday night.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sowerby was Lieutenant-Colonel of the 3rd Battalion Durham Light Infantry, in which regiment two of his sons are Captains, and he accompanied his intimate friend, Admiral Sullivan, in the Soudan campaign.

A NEW RESERVOIR FOR LONDON.

An important addition to the waterworks of the Metropolis was effected yesterday by the opening of a new storage reservoir of considerable magnitude, constructed by the Grand Junction Company, at Mount Park-hill, Ealing. The occasion was celebrated by the assembling of a numerous party of sanitarians and engineers, with other authorities interested in the water supply of London. When filled the reservoir will contain fifty-one million gallons of water, having a surface area of six acres, with a depth of forty-five feet. The site is an elevated one, placing the top of the water more than one hundred feet above the level of the ground at the Marble Arch. In the construction of this reservoir the object in view has been to provide a reserve of water in the event of drought, as also to meet any extraordinary demand arising out of an extensive fire, or other contingency. The new reservoir will be filled by water pumped up from Kew through a 30-inch main, the ascent being nearly 160 feet. At twelve o'clock the ceremony of opening the sluice for the admission of the water into its future receptacle was performed by the chairman of the company.

A SWEATING STORY FROM SHEFFIELD.

At an inquest held yesterday at Sheffield upon Thomas Howard, a pen-blade grinder, evidence was given which showed that he was in receipt of a miserable wage. A witness said deceased, who was sixty-three years of age, worked for a sweater, and he believed he died from want. Although he worked every day he did not earn more than 9s. per week, out of which he had to pay 2s. 6d. per week wheel rent, 1s. per week for the hut in which he lived, and 1s. 6d. for grinding stones and tools. His work was grinding and glazing of "fied" penknife blades, for which he was paid at the rate of 1s. per gross, reckoning fourteen blades to the dozen. The coroner said the deceased was a free agent, and if he liked to work at such low wages was at liberty to do so. The system was, no doubt, a bad one, but he did not see that the jury could alter it. The jury, acting upon the medical evidence, found a verdict of death from apoplexy.

TWO BROTHERS DROWNED.

Two lads, named Harry and Frank Hyde, aged eighteen and fifteen years respectively, were bathing in a reservoir at Mellor, near New Mills, yesterday, when the younger called out that he was sinking. His brother immediately went to his rescue, but both got into deep water, and were drowned before help could reach them. A little boy was the only witness of the accident. The mother of the lads is a widow, and lives at Marple.

RELIGION AND POLITICS AND IRISH INDUSTRIES.

Yesterday Sir E. J. Harland, head of the shipbuilding firm of Harland and Wolff, said at a luncheon given to the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, at present visiting Belfast, that the drawbacks to hives of industry being established in Ireland were religion and politics. He condemned the number of saints' days, and urged that manufacturers in their expenditure should have security from changes in future legislation.

CAPTAIN SHAW'S FORCE AND THE FATAL FIRE.

MORE MEN AND MORE MONEY WANTED.

Last evening Dr. G. Danford Thomas held an inquest at Ossington Coffee Tavern, Marylebone, on the body of Elizabeth Hardy, aged eighty-one, an invalid and bedridden, who perished in the fire which occurred on Thursday morning at 11, Wigmore-street, Cavendish-square, in the occupation of Messrs. Barclay and Son, wax chandlers, and others. Superintendent Hutchings, of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, deposed that on his arrival the place was thoroughly in flames. There were engines and all necessary appliances at the fire. Hearing that an old lady was still on the premises, so soon as the fire was sufficiently subdued he searched the building, discovering Mrs. Hardy lying terribly charred upon the bed on the top floor. The first call was received at the Baker-street station by fire alarm at 8.19, and at Portland-road station at 8.22. A minute or a minute and a half sufficed to "turn out." There was no separate day and night service, but the firemen were always on duty and in readiness. Replying to a juror, the witness said New York, which was a third of the size of London, expended three times the amount of money upon protection from fire. The Coroner: The fact is you want twice the amount of money. The witness stated that this was because there were no men available to work the escapes. In answer to the coroner, Inspector Gibbs, of the Marylebone-lane police-station, said none of the police-stations were in communication with the fire brigade stations, nor were the former provided with ladders or other appliances useful in the event of the outbreak of fire. After deliberating in private half an hour, the jury found a verdict of accidental death, with a rider to the effect "that the fire brigade and the police acted promptly when they received the call; but the evidence shows that the fire brigade is undermanned, and that there is no general electric or other direct communication between the fire brigade and police-stations; that the escapes are practically useless by day after 6 A.M., there being no fireman in attendance, or provision made for having them ready in case of a call of fire. The jury recommended that ladders or other appliances for rescuing persons in case of fire should be kept available at each police-station. The jurors further observed that on the premises there were no means of escape except by the staircase, and that several of the inmates narrowly escaped by the help of strangers before the arrival of any of the fire brigade. The jury further desire to call the attention of the Home Secretary to these facts, with a view of his causing a special inquiry to be made as to whether the metropolis cannot be placed in a state of greater security against the contingencies of fire."

THE DATE OF GELLATLY'S EXECUTION FIXED.

The sheriffs of London and Middlesex yesterday, who were accompanied by the chaplain, the Rev. W. Duffield, and the under sheriffs, visited the condemned cell to which George Gellatly, sentenced to death for the Regent's Park murder, was conveyed on Thursday evening, and informed him they had fixed the day of execution for Tuesday, August 21. The convict received the intimation with that imperturbable calmness, not to say indifference, with which he received his sentence on the previous day.

HAWKING INDECENT PRINTS.

At the Clerkenwell police-court yesterday, Nathan Moses, thirty, of White-chapel-road, Frederick Brooks, sixty-five, of Victoria-buildings, Farringdon-road, and Isaac Silverbell, twenty-one, of Oxford-street, Whitechapel, hawkers, were charged before Mr. Barstow with selling and with exhibiting to the public view a number of indecent prints and photographs in Farringdon-road. Mr. Ricketts, for the defence, said the prisoners did not know they were breaking the law. The photographs were of a kind which were openly sold and exposed in the windows of many shops in the neighbourhood of the Strand. Mr. Barstow, after looking at the photographs, pronounced many of them to be grossly offensive. He ordered each of the men to pay a fine of 40s.; in default, to be imprisoned for a month.

A MISSIONER IN TROUBLE.

Thomas Clarke, described on the charge sheet as a student, but appearing on some printed matter put in as "the Rev. Thomas Clarke," was yesterday charged on remand before Mr. R. W. Bros, at Dalston police-court, with obtaining on the 18th July a sum of 5s. from Mr. Septimus Martin, a tutor, of 163, Highbury New-park, by means of false and fraudulent pretences, Mr. Martin saying he fully believed the money was for the Glynn-road mission, with which the Rev. Mr. Houndle said prisoner was not connected. The defence now made was that the accused was trying to resuscitate a mission which he had formerly conducted in the mission hall at present tenanted by Mr. Houndle, where his goods had been seized while he was away in Ireland. The case was further adjourned.

A BARRISTER'S BETTING TRANSACTIONS.

Under the failure of Ralph Kekewich Lopes, described as of Goldsmith-buildings, Temple, barrister-at-law, the statement of affairs has just been issued. The receiving order was made on May 25, and the accounts since filed show total liabilities £29,702 os. 11d., of which £1,936 10s. 6d. is unsecured, and assets £4,581 6s. 5d. The debtor states that he was called to the Bar in 1877. In 1876 he became entitled to valuable reversions, upon which he states he subsequently raised money amounting to about £20,100, representing almost entirely losses by betting and gambling between the years 1880 and 1886. He attributes his failure chiefly to losses by betting.

ASSAULT ON A WANDSWORTH WARDER.—HEAVY SENTENCE.

A powerful and morose-looking man, named Joseph Walton, twenty-nine, carman, was charged at the Old Bailey yesterday, before Mr. Justice Hawkins, with maliciously wounding Edward Skipper, an assistant warder at Wandsworth Gaol. On the night of June 23, Skipper, in the ordinary course of his duties, received the prisoners sent to the gaol from Southwark police-court. The prisoner who had been sentenced to a month's imprisonment for stealing a loaf, was one of the party, and he was duly placed in a cell. Later the prosecutor took the prisoner his supper, when the latter attacked him in a very brutal manner, rendering him insensible. He was found guilty, and sentenced to seven years' penal servitude.

"CLEANING SILVER"—All difficulty in keeping silver, electro-plate, &c., unpurified and with a brilliant polish, may be obviated by using GODDARD'S NON-MERCURIAL PLATE POWDER. Sold everywhere, in boxes 1s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. Four Gold Medals awarded.

LAST NIGHT IN THE HOUSE.

BY A SPECTATOR.

At two o'clock this morning ended a quiet sitting in Supply, occupied with votes on account. After the recent excitement it was a great relief to have a dull evening. There was a thin House.

Mr. Smith having disposed, not very succinctly, of a perfect army of questions about the Autumn Session, Mr. Cuninghame Graham made one more attempt—idle, of course—to move Mr. Marionette Matthews to a moment's tediousness about the police, and the Square, and the coming winter.

Mr. McLaren's motion to reduce Mr. Long's salary as a protest against his support of Colonel Hughes-Hallett at Rochester, fell through owing to Mr. Courtney's ruling—technically quite correct, no doubt—that Mr. Long's statement at the time that he represented the Government did not make his action properly official. Mr. Courtney was very careful to state that there was no *parliamentary* reason for the motion, laying great stress several times on the word "parliamentary." However, Mr. McLaren, though after some fencing he had to give way, made his protest, and Mr. Stuart would have seconded it had he not been ruled out of order. Colonel Hughes-Hallett was present, though some motive of modesty had made him take a seat more under the shadow of the press gallery than usual. Here he could hardly be seen. He sat, wearing the white flower, &c., with an eyeglass of infinite nonchalance stuck in his eye, and through it regarded Mr. McLaren. He said not a word. Mr. Long sat by and heard the description of his official attitude without saying a word. The Tories generally made demonstrations of hostility to Mr. McLaren's. Why should Colonel Hughes-Hallett care for these things, when he has the cordial assent of his party as a whole and the active support of the Government? Mr. Smith sat by with an expression of melancholy virtue and family respectability while his name was quoted as on the Colonel's side. It is a charming arrangement. The ministers heaved an obvious sign of relief when the *mauvais quart d'heure* terminated.

Afterwards most of the night was occupied with re-raising a number of Irish questions. Mr. Flynn said the Lord Lieutenant's time was mainly occupied with having his photograph taken. Mr. John Morley brought up the excessive sentence of a month's imprisonment passed on Mr. Latchford by the well-known resident magistrate, Mr. Cecil Roche, under the Coercion Act, for riot and assault. Mr. Balfour traversed every contention, and said that the police had to rush in with drawn swords to prevent a riot. Mr. E. Harrington, in one of those warm, indignant, honest protests which he sometimes makes with considerable eloquence, described Mr. Roche's conduct in detail without producing any effect on Mr. Balfour, whose blind trust in his officials' "facts" is almost pathetic. To meet Mr. Balfour's denial that the Lord Chancellor reproved Messrs. Donovan and Latchford for signing a petition against Mr. Roche, Mr. Harrington promised to produce the letter. Mr. Clancy, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, and others made damaging speeches. Mr. Campbell Bannerman exploded the report just published by a too zealous official with the idea of discounting the Mitchelstown affair. It was suggested that the policeman did not fire straight at Lonergan. Unfortunately he himself admitted in the inquiry that he did. Mr. O'Connor's motion to reduce the Irish vote by £2,000 with reference to Mr. Balfour's conduct generally was defeated by a majority of 77. Dr. Tanner and Mr. Ellis induced Mr. Stanhope to refrain from snatching some army votes after 1.30. The Speaker ruled out of order several protests against the course of formal business, and the House adjourned at two o'clock. The only amusing features in the debate were those of the Lord Advocate. The Lord Advocate is a sardonically merry person. He lolls at the end of the Treasury bench, and shows to the Irish members the general tone of the Government towards them writ large in his "Rabelaisian grins," as Mr. O'Connor called them. Early in the sitting he was observed and rebuked, and after this nearly every speaker pointed him out for opprobrium. Very serious matters were under discussion, but those are the kind that always move the Lord Advocate's peculiar mirth; and, as the evening advanced, and the miserable case of a poor wretch driven mad in gaol was set forth in all its grisly horror, the poor Lord Advocate had almost to stuff his pocket-handkerchief down his throat to keep him from exploding outright.

HOW THE TZAR AND THE KAISER MADE FRIENDS.

BY AN EYE-WITNESS.

THE following interesting extract is taken from an article in the *Kölnische Zeitung*, in which Dr. Schneider, who has accompanied the German Emperor as special correspondent on his Northern tour, describes the departure of the Emperor William from St. Petersburg:—

The Tzar is a striking figure, perhaps the most striking among European monarchs. I have had various opportunities of observing him quite closely, and I can only say that he is every inch a man well fitted to represent the dignity of absolute monarchy, both before his people and before the world. His movements are measured, his step firm, the expression of his eyes at the same time dignified and gentle. The colour of his face proclaims physical health and strength, in stature he towers above those around him; he is said to be so strong that with his hands he can break a horseshoe. There is a frank honesty in his large blue eyes, and an irresistible charm about his smile. I saw him at Krasnoe Selo as he shook hands with Grand Dukes and Generals. The expression of his face was most winning, and only now and then a lightning flash of secret reserve or sudden distrust flashed across it. He meets conspiracies with a courage which bravely looks all dangers in the face. Large crowds are no longer avoided, as he drives through the crowded park at Peterhof. In obedience to his word, Prince Alexander has vanished from the political field. The misunderstanding between the Emperor and Bismarck has been cleared up at the meeting at Berlin, and if there was still a doubt as to Germany's sincerity it has been dispelled by the young ruler's visit. It was easy to see how the friendship of the two monarchs grew

rapidly during the five days of their meeting. Emperor William II. looked up to the Russian Emperor with the deference with which a younger man looks up to the older. On the day after their arrival the German Emperor and his brother Henry went to pray at the grave of his uncle, the murdered Alexander II. The Emperor stepped up to the white marble tomb, shaded his eyes, and prayed. Afterwards two wreaths of red and white roses, with the inscription "William and Henry," were placed on the graves of the late Emperor and Empress, as a sign that the two brothers belonged to the Russian Imperial family. The Tzar appreciated the thoughtful action. At the cavalry manoeuvres at Krasnoe Selo the Tzar chatted and jested quite unceremoniously with the Emperor, and laughed heartily when a melancholy soldiers' dog who had come out with his regiment strayed almost under the feet of the Emperors' horses. Later on he lifted a little Grand Duchess up and kissed her in face of all the crowd. He asked Count Bismarck after his father's health, and altogether the relations between the two monarchs became so friendly that the German Emperor prolonged his visit at Peterhof for two days. As a sign that the Tzar no longer distrusts German diplomacy he gave Count Bismarck the Alexander Nevski Order after an audience which lasted an hour and a quarter. The officers were never tired in assuring us that enmity between the two countries was impossible, that the past was past, and that the future would be much more favourable.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. SIMMONS AND DE GROOF.

To the EDITOR of the PALL MALL GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR,—Allow me to correct a mistake in the account I sent you of the accident to De Groof. Having had an opportunity of referring to the original accounts and to the report of the inquest, I find that Mr. Simmons did not cut the rope with which the flying-machine was attached to the car of the balloon, but that De Groof in some way released himself. I regret that in writing from memory I unintentionally did this injustice to Mr. Simmons, and I beg you will print this correction.—I remain, yours faithfully

August 3.

L. H.

POLICE PERSECUTION OF SOCIALISTS.

To the EDITOR of the PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—I notice with surprise, in this morning's parliamentary report, the flat contradiction given by the Home Secretary to Cuninghame Graham in regard to my case. Will you kindly allow me to state publicly that not only does a system of police supervision exist for all Socialists and their meetings, but a most bitter system of Continental police supervision calculated to ruin every Socialist individually. I need only point out that the constable 525 V had orders issued to him at past nine o'clock P.M. to find me, where? Not at my private residence: no! at my employer's! while every constable knows that all shops are closed and every worker gone home a hour before nine o'clock. The following morning a few minutes past eight in comes a detective to ask the same question, if I intended to speak at the announced meeting, stating that they had to know that for the purpose of reporting all Socialist meetings to Wandsworth; while opposite on the road, two houses down, stood a Mr. Inspector, watching as if after a second Jackson.

I ask you, Sir, what is the outcome of such troublesome visits in such unreasonable times, while both inquirers knew, as well as I do, my private address? I could speak of more cases than mine; but I think it sufficient to declare my willingness to assist the Government in bringing the illegal offenders to justice, if, as according to the Home Secretary, the Government knows nothing of a system of police supervision over Socialists.—Yours, &c,

H. DALCHOW.

26, Thornton-road, Wimbledon, August 3.

CONSCIENCE MAKES COWARDS—EVEN OF THE "TIMES."

To the EDITOR of the PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—You have repeatedly noticed the attempts which the *Times* has been making to get out of the forged letter business. On the 18th April, 1887, the *Times* printed the famous facsimile, of which it says in the article which accompanied its publication, "We are satisfied it is quite authentic." The other day the *Times* printed a letter, signed "An Outsider," the object of which was to prepare the public mind for a disclosure of a somewhat unexpected nature. In this letter the "Outsider" summarizes some observations which may be found in a more diffuse form in the introduction to a book not unknown to most of us—Butler's "Analogy"—and which occur in another shape in Archbishop Whateley's works; observations on the value of circumstantial evidence; and he goes on to point out that circumstantial evidence is "of the very essence of the proof"—proof of what? "Proof of forgery," says the Outsider. "And no forgery, if forgery be assumed, could ever be detected . . . without the fullest and most unlimited power of investigation." But what the *Times* wants to prove is not *forgery*, but the direct opposite, *authenticity*, as to which, in regard of the facsimile, it announced itself to be satisfied fifteen months ago. It is authenticity, not forgery, which in this case constitutes the crime, and all you can prove by indirect or circumstantial evidence is that it is more or less likely that a signature is authentic, and in this case all the probabilities are against it, while the direct evidence, that of Mr. Parnell himself, is against it too. It looks, therefore, very much as if when the *Times* printed the facsimile it relied on some direct evidence which has since been discovered to be likely or certain to fail. There was a passage in a speech of Mr. Parnell's a few nights ago which gave this notion, and the way in which the Attorney-General faced round in his speech in "O'Donnell v. Walter" corroborates this view. One thing is certain, that to prove authenticity without direct evidence is almost impossible. against direct evidence quite.—I am, Sir, yours, &c,

August 1.

H.

In the City.

THE HALF-YEAR'S RAILWAY DIVIDENDS.

The dividends of the principal railways for the half-year have now been declared, and the result, as will be seen, is rather mixed. Four companies have declared less than in the corresponding period; but, on the other hand, six have paid more. In several instances where the same dividend is declared the balances carried forward are larger.

	JUNE, 1883.		JUNE, 1887.		Variation Dividend.
	Div. per cent.	Amount forward.	Div. per cent.	Amount forward.	
Brighton.....	3	£5,300	3	£1,596	
Chatham Preference.....	2½	317	2½	9,871	+ ¼
Great Eastern.....	1¼	17,500	1	7,080	
Great Northern.....	3	*	3	6,071	+ ¼
Great Western.....	4½	11,200	4½	11,000	
Lancashire and Yorkshire.....	3½	13,000	3½	22,265	
London and South Western.....	3½	26,696	3½	13,188	
London and North Western.....	6	*	6	65,931	
Midland.....	4½	16,000	4½	15,000	+ ¼
Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincoln	Nil	4,000	½	2,335	- ½
Metropolitan.....	4	21,305	5	26,467	- 1
North Stafford.....	4	5,000	3½	3,238	+ ½
North Eastern.....	5½	*	4½	17,697	+ ½
North London.....	7½	2,914	7½	3,008	
South Eastern.....	3	3,000	3½	7,277	- ¼
Taff Vale.....	15	4,498	14	6,529	+ 1
Tilbury.....	2½	2,000	3	310	- ½

* Amount not stated.

THE GREAT RAILWAY PLURALISTS.

In connection with the present battle of the underground railways, a correspondent raises the question of plurality of posts held by the chairmen of these and other undertakings. He argues that it is impossible for Mr. Forbes to give due time and attention to the affairs of the District, and sends the following as the record of the concerns which he manages, but we ought to say that an unfair conclusion might be drawn from the dividend column, in the case of the Chatham, for instance:—

	Share.	Paid.	Price.	Dividend.
Chairman, Didcot, Newbury, and Southampton Railway Co.....	—	—	Nil	Nil
Deputy-Chairman, Dutch-Rhenish Railway Co.....	£20	All	17½	4
Chairman, Edison and Swan United Electric Light Co. (not quoted)	—	—	—	—
Managing Director, Hull, Bamsley, &c., Railway and Dock Co.	£100	All	30½	Nil
Director, Lion Fire Insurance Co. (Limited).....	£25	All	2½	5
Chairman, London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Co.....	£100	All	2½	Nil since Aug., 1882
Chairman, Metropolitan District Railway Co.....	£100	All	35½	3½
Chairman, Regent's Canal, City and Docks Railway Co.....	£100	—	72	Nil
Chairman, Swan United Electric Light Co. (Limited).....	£5	£3½	2½	15
Deputy-Chairman, United Telephone Co. (Limited).....	£5	All	15½	15

Comparing Mr. Forbes with the heads of other great railways, he is seen to be the most deeply engaged on the list. If ex-officio directorships were included, Sir Daniel Gooch would stand higher, but eight such appointments held by him are in connection with lines which are part and parcel of the Great Western system. Others are in a similar position, so that in the following list ex-officio directorships have been excluded:—

Name of Chairman.	Railway Company.	Chairman.	Deputy Chairman.	Director.	Total.
Sir Richard Moon.....	London and North Western.....	1	—	—	1
The Honble. Ralph Dutton.....	London and South Western.....	1	—	—	1
Mr. Dent Dent.....	North Eastern.....	1	—	—	1
Mr. Inskip.....	Taff Vale.....	1	—	—	1
Mr. Parkes.....	Great Eastern.....	1	—	—	1
Lord Colville.....	Great Northern.....	1	—	—	1
Mr. Stephen.....	North London.....	1	—	—	1
Mr. Thompson.....	Midland.....	1	—	—	1
Mr. Laing.....	London, Brighton, and South Coast.....	5	—	—	5
Mr. Armytage.....	London, Brighton, and South Coast.....	1	—	—	1
Sir Edward Watkin.....	Lancashire and Yorkshire.....	4	—	—	4
Mr. Brown.....	South Eastern.....	1	—	—	1
Sir Daniel Gooch.....	London, Tilbury, and Southend.....	2	—	—	2
Mr. Forbes.....	Great Western.....	2	—	—	2
	London, Chatham, and Dover.....	6	2	2	10

* Managing Director Hull and Bamsley Railway.

THE TRAFFICS OF THE SCOTCH RAILWAYS.

The Scotch railways have done exceedingly well during the half-year which ended on Saturday last. The weather has been against any great increase in the passenger receipts, but the goods have mounted up well. The Great North of Scotland is the only company which has done worse. The following are the figures for the half-years:—

	1888.	1887.	Increase.	Decrease.
Caledonian—Passengers.....	502,430	498,164	2,266	—
Goods.....	959,236	938,431	20,805	—
Total.....	1,459,666	1,436,595	23,071	—
North British—Passengers.....	507,316	503,589	3,727	—
Goods.....	889,287	844,021	45,266	—
Total.....	1,396,603	1,347,610	48,993	—
Glas. and S.W.—Passengers.....	244,196	243,248	948	—
Goods.....	329,827	325,572	4,255	—
Total.....	574,023	571,820	2,203	—
Gt. Nth. of Scot.—Passengers.....	72,413	73,605	—	1,192
Goods.....	98,287	100,023	—	1,736
Total.....	170,700	173,628	—	2,928
Highland (22 weeks).....	158,095	156,431	1,664	—

THE NEW COPPER CONTRACT FORM.

The committee of the London Metal Exchange have issued a new form of contract for good merchantable copper, which came into force on the 1st of August.

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee, Mr. HENRY IRVING.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, and EVERY EVENING.

MR. RICHARD MANSHFIELD.

DR. JEVILL AND MR. HAD.

Sole Authorized Version—Mr. Mansfield's original creation. Dramatized by kind permission of Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson. Box office (Mr. J. Hunt) now open daily from 10 to 5.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

(A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at Eight, THE UNION JACK. Mr. William Tennant; Messrs. C. Cartwright, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Sims, L. Cautley, D. Somers, H. Russell, H. Hadley, &c.; Miss Midland; Mesdames Helen Forsyth, O. Netherlands, D. Drummond, E. Balfour, and Clara Jackson. At 7.15, THE REFUGEES. Mr. D. Somers, Miss Agnes Miller, &c. MORNING PERFORMANCE. ANCE BANK HOLIDAY (Monday Next), at 2. Doors open at 1.30.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. THOMAS THORNE.)

JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART. 141st Time. Great success. TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, a New Comedy in Five Acts, by ROBERT BUCHANAN, entitled JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART. Produced at 7.15, by a new One Act Play, entitled THE BROTHERS, by H. BYATT. Messrs. W. Richmond, C. Maude, J. S. Blythe, S. Bunt, F. Gilmour, F. Grove, J. Wagman, and Fred Thorne; Mesdames E. Johnston, G. Homfrey, Arnold, McNeill, Harrison, &c. &c. Box-office open 10 till 6.30. SPECIAL MATINEE BANK HOLIDAY (Monday Next), at 2.30.

TERRY'S THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. EDWARD TERRY.)

(Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. Blackwell.)

The safest and coolest Theatre in London, constructed entirely with concrete and iron, absolutely fireproof, lighted throughout with electricity.

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A. W. PINERO'S New Three Act Domestic Drama, SWEET LAVENDER. 140th Time. Messrs. Edward Terry, Alfred Bishop, Brandon Thomas, L. C. Valentine, Bland, Gould, F. Kerr, Sant Matthews; Mesdames M. A. Victor, Carlotta Anderson, Maud Abbott, and Norreys. Doors open at 8. CARRIAGES 11. MATINEE BANK HOLIDAY, MONDAY, August 6, and EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Seats at the Library and Box-office, open from 10 to 5. Telephone 2700.

GLOBE THEATRE.

(Lessees and Managers, Mr. EDGAR BRUCE and Miss EDITH WOODWORTH.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.45, BOOTLES' BABY. 75th Time. Messrs. Charles Sedgden, Edmund Maurice, C. W. Garthorne, Forbes Dawson, Gilbert Farquhar, C. Kent, and Charles Courtenay; Mesdames Webster, Henrietta Lindsey, Rose Evelyn, Alaud Stewart, Minnie Terry. At 7.45, 1800 COLOURS. Messrs. Forbes Dawson, A. J. Byatt; Mesdames Graham and Florence Grant.

PRINCE OF WALES' (late the Prince's) THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. HORACE SEDGER.)

EVERY EVENING, at 7.35, WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF.

At 8.30, punctually, DOROTHY. (1st Performance.)

Mesdames Effie Chapuy, Florence Perry, Harriet Covey, E. Weston, and Amy Angarde; Messrs. Ben Davies, A. Christian, F. Emery, J. Le Hay, Edward Thorne, and C. Haydon Coffin. Musical Director, M. Ivan Caryll. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open from 10 till 5. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

ITALIAN EXHIBITION.

In Concert Hall and Theatre, FRATELLI FRANCHI'S MARIONETTES, "AMOR" and "THE LIVING SKELETON," at 3 and 7.45 P.M. The NEAPOLITAN MANDOLINISTS at 4.30 and 9 P.M.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

GRAND FAIRY BALLET, "A MIDSUMMER NIGHTS DREAM," arranged and produced under direction of Madame KATH LANKER and Mr. OSCAR BARNETT. THIS and EVERY EVENING. Open air at once, Centre Theatre if Wet. The Times says:—"It ought to attract the public in shoals. It is the most practical realization of the beauties of the 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' ever attempted." Admission daily, 12.

SAVOY.—Proprietor and Manager, R. D'OYLY CARTE.—TO-DAY, at 2.30 and 8.30, THE MIKADO, Japanese Opera. By W. S. Gilbert and ARTHUR SULLIVAN. At 7.30, MRS. JARRAMIE'S GENIE. Box-office open from 9 A.M. till 4 P.M.

SAVOY.—THE MIKADO.—THIS and EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, and SATURDAY AFTERNOON, at 2.30, until further notice. Messrs. R. Barrington, J. Wilkinson, R. Cummings, W. Brownlow, and J. C. Robertson; Mesdames G. Charr, R. Hervy, S. Grey, and R. Brannan.

SAVOY.—THE MIKADO.

COMEDY THEATRE.—TO-NIGHT, at 9, a new farcical comedy in three acts, adapted from the German of Von Moser, entitled THE ARABIAN NIGHTS, by SYDNEY GRUNDY. Mr. C. H. Hawtrey, Mr. Wilfred Draycott, Mr. W. Wyes, and Mr. W. S. Penley; Miss Cissy Graham, Miss Carlotta Gerbini, Miss Agnes Miller, Miss Gertrude Gertze, and Miss Louie Venn. Box-office open 10 to 5. At 8.10 o'clock, SUNSET, by Jerome K. Jerome.—Business Manager, Mr. E. F. Bradley.

THE ARABIAN NIGHTS.—TO-NIGHT at 9.—COMEDY THEATRE.

CRITERION THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM. EVERY EVENING, at 8.45, DAVID GARRICK. 37th Performance. Preceded by, at 8.15, WHY WOMEN WEEP. Doors open 7.45.

DAVID GARRICK.—LAST NIGHTS of the PRESENT SEASON, in consequence of Mr. Wyndham's previous engagement to visit the provincial towns. BETSY will shortly be reproduced.

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THE NEW GALLERY, REGENT STREET.—The SUMMER EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN from 10 A.M. to 7 P.M.—Admission One Shilling. Will CLOSE TUESDAY, August 7.

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THE END OF THE FREE TOWNS OF GERMANY.

On an early date after October 1, 1888, the free and Hanseatic towns of Hamburg and Bremen will cease to be such, and will become, with all their ancient privileges and rights, amalgamated into the German Empire. Apart from the historical interest of the event, it will have important consequences to British trade, as a correspondent thus explains:—

The trade of Hamburg has increased during the last twenty years to an enormous extent, being alone more than that of all the other ports of Germany put together. Now, one-half of the total trade of Hamburg is done with the British Empire. And if we consider that in 1887 the total value of goods imported into that city alone was upwards of £150,000,000 sterling, accordingly of goods directly or indirectly of British manufacture about £75,000,000, we must come to the conclusion that it is nothing less than a blow to British commerce that the protective policy of Bismarck has forced these free cities to enter the German Confederation. However unbelievable it may seem at first sight, it is a fact that on some of the most important articles with which we do trade to Germany—for instance, plate-glass—the duty is more than 25 per cent. of the value. To be able to compete in Germany with goods of German manufacture in the face of such obstacles as those, is surely next to impossible. Well, the reader will say, where have all other goods which we have exported up to the present into Germany remained? Surely they cannot all have been consumed by the free cities? To this we reply—For the greater part they have been; the smaller part which has been sold into the Confederation is either because the articles concerned were only to be had of English manufacture, or that the manufacturers had to grant a bonification on the duty, which, allowing little or no profit to

C. **F. S. CLAYTON** } Joint
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